

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

Judge: Boston St. Pat's Parade Can Exclude Gays

BOSTON - On Tuesday, January 17 a federal judge ordered the city of Boston to grant a group of veterans a permit to hold a St. Patrick's Day parade, which was canceled last spring because organizers protested a ruling requiring them to allow gay people to march as a group.

U.S. District Judge Mark Wolf upheld the claims of

parade organizers - who said the forthcoming holiday event will be aimed, in part, at protesting "the gay lifestyle." As such, they argued, it is therefore protected as free speech under the First Amendment.

As a result, Wolf said the city had no right to require that the Irish-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Group of Boston be allowed to take part in the march before it would issue a parade permit to the South

Continued on page 11

Jesse Starts The New Year with A Slap

by David Olson

U.S. Senator Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) has wasted little time in taking advantage of the more conservative bent of the U.S. Congress, making sure that among the first 25 bills the Senate will deal with this session are two measures targeting the federal government's gay and lesbian employees.

Helms, the most virulently anti-gay member of the Senate and now the chair of the powerful Foreign Relations Committee, wants to ban the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Employees (GLOBE) group from using federal facilities for its meetings and to prohibit any type of federal seminar or meeting that puts homosexuality in a positive light.

A spokesman for Helms, Jimmy Broughton, told this reporter that the bill is a cost-cutting measure.

"Senator Helms does not believe that, given our national debt, we should be funding groups such as GLOBE," he said. "This is an officially recognized group that is allowed to use government facilities and resources."

The bill also is aimed at any types of sessions or lectures in which supervisors call for "sensitivity" toward gay and lesbian workers, Broughton said.

Continued on page 27

City HRC Wants New Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans Voices

by Kent Brandley

Would you like to make your voice on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and AIDS issues heard loud and clear?

Larry Brinkin, acting coordinator for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Advisory Committee (LGB-TAC) of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, is seeking applications for new members on that body.

Continued on page 3



Photo: Rick Gerhart

Weather Victim

One of our community's favorite outdoor spots for sun and frolic won't look quite the same as a 90-year-old cypress tree toppled over in Lafayette Park during last week's heavy rains and wind.

Gays Still Raving About Police Stilling Rave

by Dennis Conkin

A young artist with HIV infection told the San Francisco Police Commission on Wednesday, January 11 that he watched the new year begin in horror as an unidentified police officer gouged his lover's eyes - right before he says police threw the couple to the ground.

Yvain Reid, 25, told the San Francisco Police Commission that officers at the now-notorious raid of the private party at

938 Harrison Street also grabbed him and lifted him up by a chain he wears around his neck, beat him, and roughed him up on his way to a police patrol wagon.

"The cops formed a semi-circle around me and slammed me face-first into the back door of the van," Reid alleged.

Reid said the abuse by San Francisco police and state Alcohol and Beverage Control officers took place after their 4 a.m. arrival at The Other New Year's Ball, a privately-organized New Year's Eve event, when they ordered the party to shut down.

An estimated 40 police, including 17 state ABC officers,

Continued on page 19

Russian River AIDS Agency Saves PWAs, Loses Equipment

by Kent Brandley

Fast action by staff members of Face to Face/ Sonoma County AIDS Network saved lives, vital files, and some expensive equipment, but last week's record Russian River flood virtually wiped out the agency's Guerneville offices, Face to Face Associate Director Rick Dean told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Among the actions taken by agency personnel, he said, were the rescues of some PWAs who reluctantly evacuated their endangered homes as the threat from the swollen river increased.

Dean estimated the organization serves more than 100 people with AIDS in the river area. "Our

total caseload is about 350, with about 40 percent in the river area," he said. "Sonoma County has the highest [per capita] incidence rate of HIV infection of any rural/suburban county in the U.S. The U.S. case rate per 10,000 is 14.6; for California it rises to 22.1; and in Sonoma County that figure is 28.3."

The AIDS Network offices, located at 16632 Highway 116 (also known as River Road), have been in Guerneville since 1985. However, Face to Face serves all of Sonoma County and more recently opened an additional office in Santa Rosa.

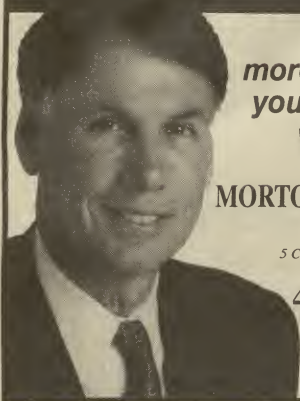
"We started hearing reports of imminent flooding" on Sunday, January 8, Dean said in an interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*.

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Bankruptcy



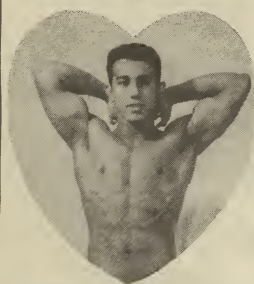
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COMMUNITY NEWS

S.J. Forum Reaches Out To Gay Youth This Weekend

by Kent Brandley

Many young men and boys between the ages of 15 and 22 think they have their whole lives ahead of them and the world by the tail — and why not? But while confidence is a good thing, too much of it can lead to behavior that puts them at a greater risk of contracting HIV.

A community forum in San Jose this Sunday, January 22 will reach out to gay and bisexual youth, remind them of the best ways to avoid HIV infection, and encourage them to protect themselves.

The forum — part of what is termed the "Can We Talk?" series — will focus on the emerging crisis, according to Andrew Gans of AIDS Health Services. Entitled "Gay Youth Are Getting HIV: Do Something," the conference will be held from 3-5 p.m. at the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, located at 175 Stockton Avenue in San Jose.

HIV is already common among gay/bisexual men as young as 15-22 years old, according to recent studies such as San Francisco's Young Men's Survey. Similar surveys are now underway in Santa Clara and Alameda Counties.

Despite available information, HIV prevention programs in schools still often ignore the specific issues of gay youth, Gans said,

and San Mateo county has no funded programs to address this population. The forum seeks to fill that gap with feature presentations by researchers, educators, and a panel of HIV-positive and HIV-negative youth.

The Sunday afternoon forum will feature researchers associated with the Young Men's Survey — the first in the nation to explore behaviors and HIV infection among gay and bisexual men aged 22 and under.

The "Can We Talk?" series of community forums on HIV prevention is sponsored by a collaboration of four area agencies: Aris Project, the DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, AIDS Health Services of the Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System, and Men Together Project of Tri-City Health Center.

Both younger and older members of the community are encouraged to attend. Besides helping to get current information into the young men who need it, said Marty Grimes, coordinator of HIV prevention and education for the Aris Project, the afternoon "will provide an opportunity for the adult gay and lesbian community who might not otherwise be heard, to offer possible solutions." ▼

■ For more information, call Marty Grimes at Aris Project, (408) 293-2747 extension 105, or Andrew Gans at AIDS Health Services (408) 885-7700.

Ray Mother, Friends To Increase Case Visibility



Tony Ray

by Kent Brandley

The mother of Tony Ray, a man gunned down in broad daylight on Polk Street last March, plans to fly to San Francisco early next month and will meet with friends of her son in an effort to stimulate "an investigation into the investigation," the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned.

Gary Johnson, who is chair of a group now known as "Friends of Tony Ray," says he and Ray's mother, Janet Streck of Rapid City, South Dakota, will demand an investigation into police handling of the case. Inspector Ed Erdelatz, responding to questions from the *Bay Area Reporter*, said he devoted a lot of time to the Ray case and said he would welcome an independent review of his role. He said he was confident "we did everything we could do at the time." Erdelatz said he was a police homicide inspector for "a good many years and retired with a good reputation."

"I've always cooperated with you guys over the years," Erdelatz said.

Erdelatz retired from the San Francisco Police Department last July and is now an investigator with the Alameda County District Attorney's office. The other detective originally assigned to the case, Jeff Brosch, has also retired.

"Where did we allegedly drop the ball?" Erdelatz asked. "That is the meat and potatoes of it."

"Why can't they subpoena eyewitnesses?" Johnson asked in an interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Numerous individuals watched the shooting and subsequent pursuit of the gunman, which occurred in front of the Stardust Cafe on Polk Street around 4:30 p.m. on March 24, 1994. The shooting followed a slapping incident inside the cafe. Immediately prior to the altercation, Ray was seated inside with an older man who has never been publicly

identified.

According to Homicide Inspector Brad Nicholson, who continues the investigation, the approximately 15 eyewitnesses to the shooting have not been subpoenaed because a positive identification has not been made, and a witness would not be subpoenaed until the matter reached the court.

"I inherited the case late," Nicholson said, but defended the inspectors who did the original case work. He said they had interviewed 30 to 50 people, and had spent hundreds of hours working on leads. "We can't force anyone into identifying someone," Nicholson said. He added that while there is "nothing concrete" yet, the case remains very active.

Johnson said that he, Streck, and other friends of Tony's will attempt to meet with the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, the San Francisco Police Commission, Mayor Frank Jordan, and District Attorney Arlo Smith to increase attention to the case.

Johnson also said he and Streck were making active efforts to involve the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Community United Against Violence (CUAV), and the Reverend Cecil Williams of Glide Memorial Methodist Church, who takes an active interest in Tenderloin concerns.

"Believe me, I'll rock that boat," Johnson said. Among Johnson's charges — one that Erdelatz called "ludicrous" — is that the inspector's association with the group "Cops for Christ" resulted in a mishandling of the case. ▼

■ A \$10,000 reward for information leading to arrest and conviction of the person who shot Tony Ray is currently offered by the City of San Francisco. Anyone with information should contact Inspector Brad Nicholson at (415) 553-1145.



Photo: Rick Gerhart

And the Winners are...

1995 Godzy Award winners Daniel Bao (left) and Steve Lew (right) show off their "monstrous" golden awards presented at the annual Gay Asian Pacific Alliance banquet Jan. 14. Rep. Norm Mineta was the keynote speaker. Both the winners are workers at the GAPA Community Health Project.

Landmark Entrapment Decision Expected Soon

by Mary Ann Swissler
East Bay Correspondent

The attorney for ten gay men arrested in a Mountain View undercover sting operation predicts a forthcoming state appellate court decision will make similar busts illegal in the future.

San Jose attorney Bruce Nickerson told the B.A.R. that when case judge Doug Southard referred the matter to a higher court last August, he leaned so favorably toward the defendants, "I believe he was setting it up to make new laws."

The judge concluded that the undercover cops' activity was discriminatory, but found himself with little leeway without an admission on the stand from one of the officers.

Police defended the arrests as a legitimate response to neighborhood complaints of sexual activity near a Mountain View adult bookstore, whose primary customers were straight. Southard found overwhelming evidence to the contrary, said Nickerson, and ruled that their enforcement techniques were designed to ensnare homosexuals. All ten of the arrested men were gay, although the judge ruled that the bookstore patrons causing problems were probably heterosexual. In addition, gender-neutral techniques such as surveillance or drive-bys were ignored, the court ruled.

"Instead, they put young, Castro-clone cops, roaming around the bookstore, had them smile and wink, and engage in conversation each man that walked inside the bookstore," said

Nickerson. Cops would twist the conversation to get the intended suspect into the unmarked police car, and then arrest them for solicitation. "It's no wonder that with a certain percentage, the cops hit home," since a tiny amount of the books and videos were geared towards a gay audience, he told the B.A.R.

The judge further ruled that the arrests were based solely on discrimination. "They bore no rational relationship to any legitimate law enforcement objective, and finally, it was based on the subconscious homophobia," said Nickerson.

The judge then cited a lack of evidence that police intended to punish people for being gay, prompting him to invite the appellate court to prove him wrong.

Nickerson believes appellate judges Eugene M. Premo, Franklin D. Elia, and Patricia Bamatre-Manoukian will render their decision soon. If they find in favor of his clients, as he expects, he said it would be first time that lewd conduct laws would be overturned on appeal, ending police behavior that is still taking place all across the country. ▼



Bruce Nickerson

Lavender Seniors To Begin Meeting in East Bay

by Mary Ann Swissler
East Bay Correspondent

A new group of gay and lesbian senior citizens has formed in the East Bay, to ensure that seniors receive government services they are entitled to.

Ina Mae Murri, who has lived in the East Bay since 1965, said that beginning this Saturday, January 21, The East Bay Lavender Seniors will begin meeting on a regular basis. Their first meeting is scheduled from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Bay Fair Mall Shopping Center in San Leandro. Interested parties may ask at any of the mall's information booths for the exact location.

Murri described the group's first meeting as a chance to make introductions and to dis-

cuss future plans on how to better serve gay East Bay senior citizens, both inside and outside retirement homes. "We really don't have any way of knowing what the interests of the people are," Murri said. It will be easier to set priorities for the group once they've met, but most likely Lavender Seniors will assist with getting government benefits for members, as well as take trips together.

"There are a lot of things that are available for seniors," Murri said, who explained that she was motivated to start the group after an Alameda County Department on Aging study included a component on gays and lesbians. The consultant who worked on the study was gay, and he wanted to make

sure sexual orientation was included. ▼

■ For further information call Ina at (510) 247-2406.

HRC

Continued from page 1

One of five standing committees, the LGBTAC is mandated by law to identify and address the issues and concerns of the queer communities of San Francisco, advise the commission, and combat sexual orientation and HIV-based discrimination.

Commissioner Jeanette Lazam, a community activist and program manager at Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum, chairs the committee.

The committee is looking for knowledgeable community activists. The committee aims to achieve racial, ethnic, and sexual balance in its composition.

Applicants must live in San Francisco and must commit to attending LGBTAC meetings on

the third Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

The deadline for applications has been extended to Wednesday, January 25, Brinkin said. Interested persons must send a letter and resume detailing their community involvement and areas of expertise by that time.

Not all of those who apply will be selected. Brinkin told the *Bay Area Reporter* he dreaded the process, because it was always necessary to reject some truly wonderful applicants. ▼

■ Mail applications to: Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Advisory Committee, San Francisco Human Rights Commission, 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 800, San Francisco, CA., 94102-6033.

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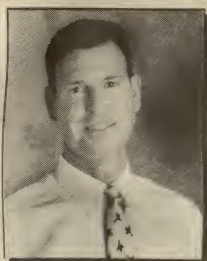
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Frameline Director Finch Reported Missing

by Dennis Conklin

The disappearance of Mark Finch, the exhibitions director for Frameline, the producers of the San Francisco Lesbian & Gay Film Festival, is being called an unconfirmed suicide by the California Highway Patrol.

Finch, 33, has been missing since his leather valise was discovered by the CHP on Saturday, January 14, at the Golden Gate Bridge at 3:30 p.m. — an hour and a half after he left the Frameline offices.

In addition to his internationally acclaimed work for Frameline, Finch (under the pseudonym Aiva Nidnacs) was also the primary contributor to "Out There," the arts and entertainment gossip and information column in the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation executive director Tom di Maria, who was a close personal friend of Finch, filed the official

missing persons report with police after his number was discovered in a note in the valise and he was contacted by the California Highway Patrol.

A "businesslike" letter containing information about various work-related tasks and projects and the distribution of his personal property was found at Frameline, leading to speculation that Finch may have taken his own life.

Although he was not known to be despondent, Finch had learned several months ago that the Immigration and Naturalization Service had denied his request for an extension of his visa, despite his international stature and the importance of his work at Frameline. The INS decision would have forced him to return to England in about a year.

Finch's last "Out There" column is published in this week's Arts and Entertainment section.

Finch's family has been contacted, but few other details are available at *B.A.R.* press time. ▼



Mark Finch

Catholic Charities Leadership Changes Hands

by Mary Ann Swissler
East Bay Correspondent

A longtime friend of the gay community, Father Jim Schexnayder, has been appointed head of Catholic Charities for Alameda County.

"Father Jim" was ordained 30 years ago in the Oakland Archdiocese, and has supported gay and lesbian causes ever since. He told the *Bay Area Reporter* he sees the year ahead as one of review, to see how Catholic Charities can best work with the community. He has worked in volunteer training and prevention education with Catholic Charities of Alameda County for six years.

"There's been some process of consolidation of AIDS services into one area," Father Jim told the *B.A.R.* The four housing programs Catholic Charities pioneered, beginning in 1991, have merged with HIV/AIDS Services, eliminating the position previously held by activist Jeff Meredith. These programs include case management for 900 clients, the Amara house in Richmond for homeless people with AIDS, a money management program, and the Shelter Plus Care, which works with an HIV-positive population with drug problems, primarily in East Oakland.

One brand new program will include prison outreach, he said.

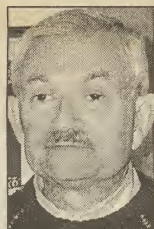
Schexnayder added that an upcoming agency review would determine if anything but the names

would change. "It will be done in order to better understand how we're serving the needs of people and how we would best be structured to do that."

When asked by the *B.A.R.* why the Catholic Church, whose doctrine clearly outlaws homosexual activity, would reach out to help victims of a disease that has devastated the gay community, Schexnayder said it's a matter of human rights.

He stressed that he has gone out to East Bay Catholic churches for years to foster greater understanding of gays and lesbians. "The Catholic Church is not against it as an orientation. The issue has come up regarding sexual activity, but the church has supported statements about the human rights of gays and lesbians."

"Our approach has been pastoral. We just don't work with people who agree with the church's teaching on sexual activity. We work with everybody who wants to participate. It starts with a positive, supportive role," Schexnayder said that individual Catholic churches do not always agree with this moral high road, but priests like him persevere. ▼



Father
Jim Schexnayder

Alameda County Human Relations Commission Gets Staffer

by Mary Ann Swissler
East Bay Correspondent

The days when the most significant thing about Alameda County's Human Relations Commission was its low profile, are numbered.

So says Vince Reyes, newly hired Multicultural/Multilingual Coordinator for Alameda County, who will provide administrative support for the commission to compile hate crime statistics and conduct community outreach. That's been a tall order to fill for the well-intentioned but politically neutral commission for years, he acknowledged.

Additionally, he told the *B.A.R.*, he wants to work with

HRC Chair Shirley Ware to focus the commission's goals for 1995 and beyond, on hate crimes and issues related to multiculturalism. "Because if you're just getting started, my sense is that you should just do something small. You just do a limited amount of functions to make sure you're effective."

Ware said that she doesn't know how the long-neglected county commission finally got a staff person, but said she was "very excited," particularly since she and Reyes have worked together before.

Reyes became an expert in his own right through the Multicultural/Multilingual Oversight Committee of the

Board of Supervisors, a task force that looked at the language and cultural access to programs in 40 county agencies, from 1989 to 1991. They looked at hate crimes after noticing a correlation between attitudes towards minorities — including gays and lesbians — and behavior.

He then discovered that rooting out hate crimes is hard work, he said. Of the 14 law enforcement agencies surveyed in Alameda County, just half had any reporting mechanism in place, and none of these were specific to ethnicity or sexual orientation.

Reyes won't have far to look for a model on getting the story of hate crimes in Alameda

Continued on page 12

Burger King to the Queens: Who Wants It? Who Doesn't?

Company's 'Not Trying To Ram Anything Down Anybody's Throat'

by Dennis Conkin

A proposal to open a Burger King outlet at the corner of Church and Market streets has stirred a hornet's nest of opposition among area merchant and neighborhood groups, the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned.

The fast food franchise giant wants to lease the ground floor space of 2101 Market Street, an apartment property site, confirmed Skyline Realty broker Pete Pattis.

Skyline Realty has maintained its offices on the ground floor location of the site for about two decades, but wants to move downtown, Pattis said.

The Burger King outlet would be directly across the street from a Boston Market fast food baked chicken and deli goods outlet. The chicken outlet recently changed its name to Boston Market. Both franchises are located within steps of the Church Street Muni subway stop.

"There is a proposal that we move the office downtown," Pattis said. "If we move, it will be within the next six months and we are going to have a vacant space at 2101 Market," Pattis said.

Burger King would be required to pay all taxes and insurance on the property, and also would be required to pay a percent of profits to the realty company for the privilege of setting up shop at the site.

"It would be a great type of lease," Pattis said.

"So, that's the reason," said Mint Hill Neighbors president Nancy Zimmer. "It's not a good idea. There's going to be a lot of neighborhood opposition. We don't need more problems with odor and garbage. We already have a lot of problems with panhandlers and homeless people," she said.

Pattis acknowledged that neighborhood groups are concerned about Burger King's proposal.

That's putting it mildly, says the president of one of the groups.

"We're violently opposed," said Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association President Brian Christianson. "It won't only drive out other merchants, but people in the neighborhood will start to consider whether it's worth it to continue to live in the neighborhood."

Burger King says it's getting a bad rap, that it will bring low-cost food and much needed jobs to the area — and that it is open to discussing design and other issues with community groups.

The site is just one of several that the multinational corporation is scouting for sites in San Francisco, said Fred Phillips, a Burger King development officer.

"We're not trying to ram anything down anybody's throats," Phillips said.

"It's a process that takes place over a period of time. We're not just going to walk away. We are looking around, we'll keep trying. If there's absolutely no possible way, then we will have given it our best shot."

Phillips flatly refused to discuss the cost of opening and operating a Burger King outlet at the location, saying the information was confidential. He also refused to speculate about how much yearly profit the store might generate.

"I can't comment on the numbers. Every site is different," he said.

According to Phillips, Skyline Realty, owned by multi-millionaire Fred Lemby, initiated the contact with the fast food chain — and has also spoken with McDonald's about the site.

The franchisee interested in the location currently owns 123 Burger Kings outlets in California, including 24 in the Bay Area, he said.

According to Christianson, the realty company asked the neighborhood group to come up with a list of complaints about a Burger King at the location, and that it would give them to the corporation in an effort to mitigate the objections.

But Christianson said that DTNA has rejected the offer —

as well as claims that the Noah's Bagels lease of the former Bank of America site at 18th and Castro created a precedent for such mitigation.

"We're not interested in deals. Our endorsement is not up for sale," Christianson told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "This has nothing to do with Noah's Bagels."

Is the precedent set?

Noah's Bagels, an Emeryville-based bagel chain, received permission from the city last year to open and operate an outlet in the site of the former Bank of America at the corner of 18th and Castro, despite the objections of many neighborhood restaurateurs and a ten-year-old ban on new restaurants in the retail food cluttered area.

A conditional use permit to operate the bagel outlet was granted because Noah's planned to lease the entire site, pay for remodeling costs, and, in a public-private partnership with the non profit Life Center, turn the unused portion of the renovated property over — rent-

free — to the center. The space will be used by community groups, including the AIDS Health Project, which will provide counseling and support groups and HIV testing at the site.

"It's a very different situation," said Life Center director Jonathan Pearlman.

Life Center will manage the site until its new location at Market and Noe is completed. The 18th and Castro site will then be available for use by other groups, such as the Center For The Performing Arts, as long as Noah's holds the lease on the property. The current lease runs for seven years.

Now that it is a *fait accompli*, the Noah's Bagels/Life Center partnership is a precedent that Burger King could follow, said Barry Hermanson of Hermanson's Employment Services.

After all, he said, if Burger King only uses about 2,500 square feet of the site as planned, 1,000 square feet remains, which Skyline would rent to another business;

Hermanson suggested that Burger King could donate the space to a non-profit community group.

"Not just any non-profit, but take a look at what's needed and they could contract with a non-profit community organization in need," he said.

Hermanson said that some kind of job training or computer and business skills training program would be appropriate.

Merchants in the group are also very concerned about the proposed Burger King, Hermanson acknowledged. "But there's no hysteria," he said.

According to Phillips, it would take a year to move through the city permits and site approval for the chain to begin business in the area.

But even if community opposition nixes the proposed Market and Church site as a location for Burger King, there are other neighborhoods the company wants to move into.

"I was walking Castro Street looking for a location about two weeks ago," Phillips told the *B.A.R.* ▼

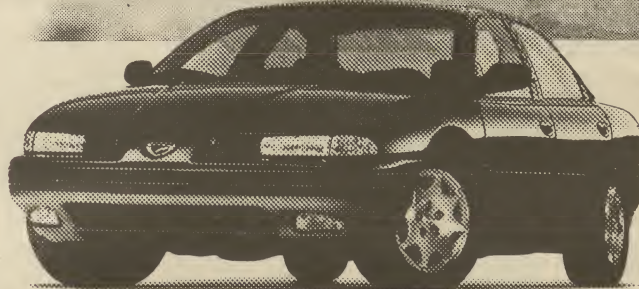
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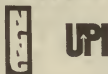
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EDITORIAL

Little Right Lies

Our latest copy of *Christian American*, the Pat Robertson "newspaper" with more of a political bent than, say, *American Socialist* (but without its tax bill) is positively dripping with venom for erstwhile Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders. The main editorial gloats over her dismissal for "her statement to a World AIDS Day conference that masturbation should be taught in the public schools." (So much, again, for that Commandment about bearing false witness: the paper is misrepresenting her statements knowingly and maliciously; so what else is new?)

"But this was merely the latest in a series of similarly absurd statements Elders had delivered," it continues, "often to gatherings of homosexual activists, which undermined the moral fabric of American society." We think history will sort out the facts, and will certainly place Elders in a more positive light than Robertson, but we keep coming back to the issue of homosexuality undermining America.

The late Boyd McDonald, a brilliant chronicler of many truths about American society, frequently speculated that heterosexuality must be, in fact, abnormal if it really needs so much propping up. If it were "natural," he queried, why would it be so threatened by the existence of any alternative? Homosexuality, lesbianism (if that is a separate category), and masturbation are vilified as dangers to what is also constantly described as "God's way." If that is the case, why can't they trust God to have his way without their bloody interference?

It is always a good idea to read the lies propagated by those who call themselves Christians: it educates, illuminates (although not in the way Robertson would like), and frequently entertains. A letter to the editor in the most recent *CA*, for instance, suggests that one of four major arguments in favor of "total privatization of our school systems" is the unwelcome "advance of new technologies such as computers or calculators in elementary grades."

"Should young children learn technologies," a Mr. Randall Pope of Alliance, Ohio asks, clearly in search of a "no" answer, "or concentrate on the three R's?"

We have our own ideas of what those "R's" stand for in

Mr. Pope's tiny world — repression, regression, and reflux — but it was still interesting to see 1995 begin with the embracing of what amount to Amish principles. (Well, some: non-violence doesn't come into play much.) And it was funny, because we instantly started to hope the Alliance Community Theater offers him the role of Lady Bracknell for a 100th anniversary production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* this year. It might be worth spending Valentine's Day in Ohio just to hear him say that ignorance is a delicate flower that mustn't be touched.

Perhaps if he heard the laughter he provoked he might realize that once stooped = Christian, Christian = stooped. Christ's worst enemies could only kill his body; it is unfortunately up to his followers to destroy him entirely.

And then there's the other Pope — the one in the Vatican — who fired a French bishop this week for advocating condom use (remember, John Paul II forbids them even to HIV-positive men to prevent infecting HIV-negative wives) and for deigning to speak with a reporter for a gay magazine. So much intolerance at the Vatican. So much inflexibility. So much for "Hate the sin but love the sinner."

Perhaps both Popes and some other far right wackos should check out the ads in *Christian American*; specifically, the one on page 20 for something called Laxatone. "Nothing can be more pleasant than to start your day with a nice, clean system," says the ad reasonably enough, before rushing headlong into enthusiastic initial caps. "A Good Bowel Movement at least once a day is not only necessary for good health, but it is a must for good energy levels, weight loss and a sense of well-being."

Why it's okay to talk about poop, but not whacking off, is still a mystery to us, but we're glad such a frank statement was printed. We think, in fact, they are words that (unlike the rest in the paper) might change history for the better. If more of the far right started having good — oh, pardon us — Good Bowel Movements, a sense of well-being might permeate America.

Now if we could only get them to listen to Elders. ▼

GUEST OPINION

The Special Needs of Gay WWII Vets

It's time to talk about a special group: World War II veterans who are gay men, lesbians, or bisexuals. For brevity's sake I will refer to them simply as gay veterans, with the understanding that the term is meant to be inclusive.

Gay veterans of World War II constitute a majority of members of the GLB [Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual] VETS. Fifty-seven percent of our members are over 65 years of age. I count myself among that group. I am a gay veteran of the World War II era.

Our gay World War II vets have all the problems of the larger group, plus other problems that are uniquely theirs. Until GLB VETS reorganized in January of this year and obtained an office in Veterans Memorial Center, we ourselves did not suspect the extent of some of these problems, nor did we appreciate the critical role that GLB VETS can play in the lives of gay veterans in my age group.

To understand what we are like, it is important to recognize that we were gay long before the Stonewall riots, long before there was anything called Gay Liberation. This was a time that was even less tolerant than the present. We came from a time when some fathers and mothers had their own teenage children committed to mental institutions because they were gay.

One result of growing up in this hostile climate was that we tended to be very circumspect about our sexual orientation. We didn't want to live in the closet, but we came out of the closet very cautiously and mostly after dark. When the war was over thousands of us flocked from rural areas and smaller cities to great metropolitan centers like New York, Chicago, San Francisco, and Los Angeles.

By day, most of us were anonymous, melting into the straight — het-

erosexual — population and working at a variety of jobs. On our own time we favored friendly gay bars in sections of the city that were in effect gay ghettos. We didn't think of these areas as power bases; they were simply places where we could be openly and comfortably ourselves.

Some veterans in my age group still aren't comfortable in straight surroundings. They may be very skillful at assuming a straight façade, but they prefer to stick to their own group of gay friends where they can be themselves and feel at home. GLB VETS groups serve an important function in the lives of seniors by providing social activities for them and by bringing them news of veterans' benefits that they would otherwise be unaware of.

Until our organization held seminars for seniors, it had never occurred to many of them to go to VA Medical Centers for healthcare. Some didn't even realize that they were entitled to do so.

One problem of gay World War II vets is that many worked at low-income jobs, so they have even smaller financial backlogs than straight veterans of the same age. In spite of the myth that gay men earn fantastic salaries, we earn less on average than straight men do. By the same token, lesbians earn less on average than straight women. Of the four groups, lesbians have the lowest average income by far.

Some veteran advocates have suggested that the best solution for the threat of homelessness among older veterans would be retirement villages cosponsored by the Federal Government and states or cities. The residents of these villages would pay a third of their income in rent and would live in a cooperative environment.

We do not see this as a viable solution for gay older veterans. As an unpopular minority they would feel very isolated and unhappy in a community that is predominantly straight. That's why we believe it would be preferable to develop programs that would enable them to stay in their present apartments, so long as they are physically able and mentally competent. This would be the most economical and humane solution and the one most conducive to independence and physical and mental well-being.

Isolation can be a problem for older gay veterans, especially those who have outlived a lover with whom they shared many years of their lives. A small minority of gay World War II vets are parents and grandparents, but most of us have no younger generation to serve as a support group for us.

That's why we would favor a satellite VET CENTER in the Greenwich Village area, one in which GLB VETS would play a key role. Ideally, this might be combined with a storefront drop-in center. The stress and anxieties in the lives of our gay World War II vets make them a good candidate for group and individual counseling, but GLB VETS would have to play an intermediary role for some who are resistant to the idea of therapy.

As this aging population of veterans becomes more vulnerable to chronic physical ailments that require periodic check-ups or treatment, neighborhood medical clinics would also be highly desirable.

Some older gay vets are reluctant to deal directly with any agency of the government, even with the V.A. Our organization, GLB VETS is our family and our home. To steal a line from Robert Frost, this is our place where when we have to go there, they have to take us in. ▼

by
Cale Lehman

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and Bisexual
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LETTERS

More Tests in Berkeley

In the January 5 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter*, page 5, was a short article on "AIDS/HIV Antibody Testing in the East Bay" by Mary Ann Swisser. The listing failed to include City of Berkeley Health and Human Services test sites, although it did list Berkeley Free Clinic, which is a satellite testing program under the administration of the city of Berkeley. We would appreciate it if you could find a way to publicize these two operations:

- 1.) ATS - Saturday, 1 - 3:30, 830 University Avenue, Berkeley. Drop-in. (510) 644-8901;
- 2.) ATS - Thursday, 1 - 3:30, 1802 Fairview at the South Berkeley Community Church. Drop-in. (510) 644-8901.

We need to make all options known to those seeking testing and avoid congestion at any one site.

Carolyn Ramey
HIV Test Site Coordinator
City of Berkeley

[The B.A.R. regrets the omission.]

Violent Reminder

My emotions ranged from initial shock to anger to dismay when I read Michael Botkin's column ("Black and Blue in Bernal") about his gay bashing. Every week I look forward to his work as kind of an abrasive pick-me-up, but this time around it really demoralized me (although a powerful piece.) I guess living here in San Francisco, this "bastion of liberality," we forget how close to the surface violence often lies. I know his experience made me think a bit more about my own protection, about how many times I've shrugged off being called a "fucking faggot" (among other appellations), about how we're trained to always give way to bigots, which I think, in a sense, was what that inspector was advocating.

I'm glad Michael decided to keep his rainbow flag flying. I, too, am a gay man who was once opposed to guns - now I own one and practice regularly at a shooting range on the Peninsula. I'm not sure if this is the answer, but all I can say is that given the "official response" detailed in Michael's column and the follow-up article this past week (why the hell isn't this Darin De La Housaye person in jail on a felony?), there don't seem to be many other viable alternatives.

Alonzo J. Tousuete
San Francisco

Botkin Bashing

[The following letter was sent to Mayor Jordan:]

Dear Mayor Frank Jordan,

You have made it a focus of your administration to improve the safety of the citizens of this city and have been somewhat successful in reaching that goal. However, the attached article that appeared in last week's *B.A.R.* ["Black and Blue in Bernal Heights"] outraged me.

It is not acceptable for someone to be intimidated in their own neighborhood through no fault of their own as Michael C. Botkin is. If he was Herb Caen, these threatening thugs would have been already behind bars, and Michael Botkin is a Herb Caen to my community.

I hope you will find it in your heart to make this incident a priority and seek its appropriate resolution as soon as possible. Your support would be very greatly appreciated by me.

Tony Jasinski
San Francisco

Vampire No Queer Delight

I do not consider the film *Interview with the Vampire* a Queer Delight as your film critic does. Beside the blatant misogyny which is nothing new to the mainstream films, I see all the paranoid stereotypes of gays being brought into the mainstream cinema. It fits into the increasingly conservative climate of this country and precludes a backlash that we will soon see. The idea that a vampire is being in a not very subtle way linked to the very stereotypical vision of a gay person as the pathetic, unsatisfied, predatory, unnatural, sadistic, pedophilic, evil being is very frightening. The comments of Lestat such as: I had no choice whereas you had, the San Francisco location and the paranoia around infection through the exchange of blood show no mistake about the intentions of the film director of this movie. It is a gay bashing, misogynist film and I can't believe Daniel Mangin does not see it.

Yohana Knobloch
San Francisco

Defenders' Benefit

On behalf of the Defenders-SF I would like to thank the *Bay Area Reporter* for your support, helping to publicize our Beer/Soda Bash Benefit for the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center on December 24. Between the money taken in for the drinks and separate contributions we raised one hundred dollars for LYRIC. Even though this is a modest contribution I know they will appreciate the support. More than being a "fund raiser" it was also a very successful "fun raiser." We hope that everyone enjoyed the Santa Claus Look-Alike Contest and holiday treats as much as we enjoyed providing them.

We would also like to thank Mr. S. A Taste of Leather, and Image Leather for contributing prizes for the Santa Claus Look-Alike Contest. These community merchants have a fine record in supporting worthy causes, and we appreciate being able to count on them. Thanks also to our Santa Claus Look-Alike judges - Jon Sugar, Mrs. Claus, and Alfonso - and to our contestants. Your participation and good humor were essential to the event's success.

Especially we would like to thank the Lone Star. Their continuing support to the Defenders is a great service to our club, which we hope to translate into further service for the community.

Jack Fertig
Leader, Defenders/SF

Trouble in Leather City

About the Motorcycle/Leather/Uniform club scene in San Francisco. The on-going trouble with the Inter Club Fund is indicative of the problems that I have seen in all these clubs. Most of the club scene is lost on the community as a whole. "Those old guys who host beer busts" is the most of what I hear from younger people. Information about the long history and what the clubs do now is, at best, vague. Recently I attended a great South of Market party by a couple of attractive and talented guys who used to belong to different clubs. The stories I heard were very disappointing. After putting their hearts and souls into their groups, club self-centeredness, corrupt politics, egos, and a general discouraging of honest involvement turned these guys off and drove them out of their different clubs. The clear message was from every corner "Ask no questions, go along, or else get out." Not a great way to encourage young ideas and vitality. To say that corruption thrives in this cliquish environment is an understatement.

Considering joining a while back, I attended an I.C.F. meeting and found that no one had even seen their constitution since the early 1980s. They didn't know, and resented being asked, where their description of purpose was! One club, because of the prestige and money involved, ignores the fact that an institution in this city won't permit them to put the name or location on their big spring ball posters because it promotes "leather and uniforms." No wonder these clubs are diminishing under greed, apathy, controversy, and confusion. Before we give them more money and time, with respect to the honorable fundraising institutions, an honest investigation about what is going on should be encouraged. At least in honor of the great memory of past fellowship that these clubs originally tried to develop.

Thank you Mr. Marcus for having the courage to shed some light on these troubled institutions.

Daniel Silver
Kentfield, CA

Uncut, Unshown, Unroasted

I too was disappointed by the cancellation of *John Bobbitt Uncut* at the Roxie. Not because I wanted the privilege of paying \$6 to see some schlocky porn, but because I, along with the Lesbian Avengers and other neighborhood residents, had planned a rowdy demonstration for the screening, complete with leaflets about domestic violence and weiners to roast in the street! The intention of the demonstration was not to censor the film, but to raise awareness about domestic violence and to protest the sexism in our culture that rewards an abuser with a starring role in a film where he can portray the woman he raped as a frigid shrew. (But I suppose we're all supposed to laugh because this is camp, right? No- real domestic violence is not funny, and neither is men or women profiting off it.)

I don't know who called the theatre, and I don't know if they "demanded" the film not be shown or what. However, to assume that anyone who protests is advocating censorship is absurd. People should be free to make their own choices about whether or not to see a film, and all should be free to picket, leaflet and burn weiners ('cuz what's a good demo without something burning?)

Now, does anyone want any leftover weiners?

Monica Tauriello
San Francisco

Continued on page 8

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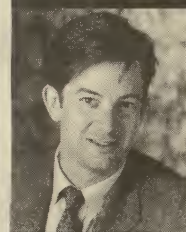
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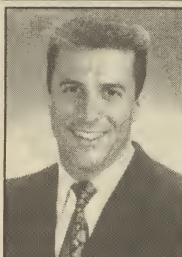
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LETTERS

Continued from page 7

Smoking In Public

This is in response to Raymond Sasso's Letter to the Editor on 12/8, titled "Smoking Mad." First let me make it very clear that I am for legalizing drugs. I believe that what one does to themselves is none of my concern, provided of course that it does not infringe upon my right to do what I desire, my health or my pocketbook.

Smoking has been proven to cause harm. The arguments that say that smoking doesn't harm second-hand smokers come from tests conducted by the tobacco industry that showed no significant levels of harmful materials in the air of a room after a single smoker had a single cigarette. The room was not tiny. The problem is that in most public circumstances, it is never a single cigarette (cigar or pipe), or a single smoker. That said, all people around a smoker are affected by tobacco smoke.

Raymond, you speak of nazi-like tactics. Yes, some people do take it a little too far with their anti-smoking antics. But, be serious, no responsible person would allow someone who is falling down drunk to get behind the wheel of a car. Why? Because it might kill that person or someone else. So, if we stop the drunk from driving to protect himself and others, then we should stop the smoker to protect others (just the fact we allow smoking defeats protecting themselves from themselves).

You talk of fair restrictions. What could be more fair than the new state legislation that is taking effect January 1? Second-hand smoke doesn't know how to stay in the non-smoking room. If there are not walls between the smoker and the non-smoker, no super filtration system, and separate air systems, then some or most of the second-hand smoke will eventually reach the non-smoker.

You talk of heavy taxes. How about the fact that I don't smoke, yet I'm forced to pay higher health care costs, higher taxes, and my own personal health just so that you can destroy your own life and those around you? Now that's what I call completely unfair!

You talk of saving your choices, well, maybe it's about time others have a choice! Like the choice to go to a restaurant and not be affected by someone smoking? If smokers want to continue smoking, there are bars (though that disappears in two years). The law *does* allow special "Smoking Rooms" to be established. Now there's a niche! Bar owners could look into setting themselves up as "smoking rooms," then smokers only could enter!

It's bad enough I have to put up with a bunch of smokers blowing smoke my way at a bus stop. They huddle under the shelters to stay out of the rain, forcing non-smokers to get drenched to not participate in the smoker's drug habits.

Nicotine (tobacco) is a drug, second-hand smoke kills. So long as you insist on smoking around me, you are forcing ME to smoke with you. I do not force you to drink or take other drugs while around me, please don't force me to take your drug with you.

Verne G. Armstrong
San Francisco

Not a Right to Be Fragrant, Either

I consider myself one of the pioneers/survivors from the early days of the Castro. Like many others, I too am HIV positive. However, the most limiting factor in my life is a condition known as Multiple Chemical Sensitivity. This condition which creates neuralgic reaction upon exposure to even trace amounts of chemicals in the environment, is covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Because of this chemical sensitivity condition, I am effectively excluded from the Castro nowadays. The perfume and body lotions shops next to the Castro Theater, as well as the new one near Spinnelli's emit toxic fumes on the sidewalk that result in my becoming ill immediately.

Recently, upon visiting one of the South of Market sex clubs that prides itself on being fragrance free, I was forced to leave because of the tremendous amount of smoke in the environment. Another club, which does not have the fragrance restriction has counter persons loaded with some of today's horrible chemical fragrances.

I am not the only one with this chemical sensitivity; in fact, many people with immune system disorders from either HIV or chemotherapy experience the same reactions as I do upon exposure to smoke or chemicals. I do not patronize businesses which allow smoking on the premises or have employees that use fragrance. Instead, I and others who are similarly affected have joined together in an effort known as the Chemically Injured Litigation Project in order to create access where none exists now.

I would hope that sensitive, socially responsible persons would refrain from wearing perfume in public or smoking near the open windows and

doorways of businesses. I hold little hope for this as I have observed each of these polluters maintain that it is their inherent right to engage in this irresponsible behavior.

It is my wish that those shops that sell chemical personal care products keep their doors closed so as to not affect persons walking by. Those businesses that continue to maintain poor indoor air quality will go the way of all irresponsible social institutions. Hopefully, smokers will die off before I do (I have been HIV-positive since the early 1980s).

Fifteen or 20 years ago, and before I became disabled, people did not wear the horrendous chemical fragrances they do now. The clones of the 1970s and early '80s did not find it necessary to wear chemical fragrances.

John Cailleau
San Francisco

[The editor responds: We hate fragrances, too, especially since Patou stopped making Eau de Sport and Chanel stopped making Russian Leather. But we seem to remember the 1970s being enveloped by Aramis and the early 80s being doused by Jovan Musk. We thought it was getting better, not worse.]

Who's Sorry Now?

The news that they're planning on tearing down San Bruno's world-famous Circle Star Theatre should be sending shock waves through San Francisco's gay community. After all, this IS the ONLY place in the Bay Area that has had the taste and elan to book Miss Connie Francis for the last twenty years! If they close down, we may never see her like again!

Almo Borjeson
San Francisco

Save Our Children

[The following letter was sent to Mayor Jordan:]

Dear Mayor Jordan:

We are writing to you as concerned, angry and loving parents of a 28-year-old gay son living in San Francisco who was quite shook up by the San Francisco police raid on a private New Year's Eve party he attended.

When our family got together on New Year's Day, he told us about the party he attended the night before. It was a private warehouse party, an AIDS fundraiser which was going very well. The police spoke to the organizers ahead of time and agreed to leave them alone if no alcohol was served. This turned out to be a lie.

Police harassment began early Sunday morning after many hours of a peaceful party. An inordinately large police presence led to beatings and arrests. Our complaint could stop right here. The police should not beat people up. Our son's first comment was "It's scary that the people entrusted with the power to protect us, are using that power to control us. It's like science fiction."

The scenario was even more scary. The police wore no badges. Apparently all those arrested were later released, but at the time, they asked, "What is it that we're being taken in for?" The police did not answer.

We are members of PFLAG - Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. PFLAG's goals are to Support, Change Attitudes, and Educate. It seems that San Francisco Police need to learn that the old ways of intimidating and controlling are changing. San Francisco's Police Department should be a leader in the new ways of communicating, cooperating and compromising.

Just 25 years ago, the New York City Police Department was humiliated into letting go of the old ways when a group of radical gays and lesbians fought back at the Stonewall Bar. Apparently the progress made between San Francisco officials and the gay community must still be extended to the radical portion of that community. It's up to the leaders, like yourself, to educate and change police attitudes.

Please take immediate action on this event. A prolonged investigation with no clear outcome is unacceptable. If the police were not wearing identification; if the police did not clearly tell what the problem was; if the police went back on an agreement, then they must be held responsible. We do not want our son, or other parents' sons and daughters to be harassed, beaten up or have their civil liberties taken away. We won't stand for it.

Howard Siegel
Laura Siegel
Pacifica, CA

Shades of Gray

As you read this column today, you may not realize that Lieutenant Governor Gray Davis - former staff person to LA's ex-Mayor Tom Bradley, assemblyperson, chief of staff to onetime Governor Jerry Brown, and state controller - is governor of California at this moment. Well, "acting governor," to be

job seriously, try hard not to engage in any silly political skirmishes with Wilson, keep his name in the news as much as possible, and become a top candidate for governor four years from now.

Politics and people

Fighting among the GOP already? Say it ain't so! D.C. insiders are reporting that Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole is getting downright annoyed (jealousy can be a terrible thing!) at all the fuss and continuous headlines House Speaker Newt Gingrich is generating.

Dole is also looking over his shoulder at other likely

re-election and will leave her job in August.

Meanwhile, while still licking their wounds from the beating they took in November, President Clinton and other top Democrats are proposing a plan that would have Connecticut Senator Chris Dodd as the Democratic Party's general chairman and former South Carolina party chairman Don Fowler as national chair. They would handle the day-to-day operations of the party as the Dems rebuild for 1996.

In Manila last week, Pope John Paul II drew a record 4 million to World Youth Day services, and the Pope, predictably, warned the young people in attendance not to "abuse the beautiful gift of sexuality." Just make sure it comes wrapped would be my advice.

The NY Gay Men's Health Crisis Center recently received "over \$1 million" from Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward.

Those in the know in Sacramento are now saying "Speaker" Willie Brown will eventually either have to share his responsibilities with the Republicans "or lose the job entirely."

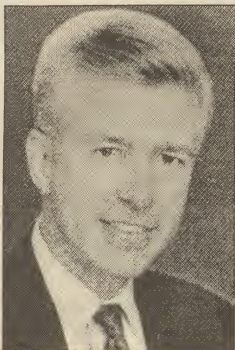
Yes, you can count me among those who would bring back district elections for supervisors.

Memo to Mike: Take a page from the GOP nominee for governor of Maryland, who last week, despite losing her contest by less than 3,000 votes, conceded with considerable class to her Demo opponent. Of course, \$30 million can buy many things, but class ain't one of them.

Some of his old friends and political allies are quietly urging John Molinari to run for mayor, but don't count on Jack jumping into this one.

President Clinton will speak at the upcoming California Democratic Party State Convention scheduled for March 31 to April 2 in Sacramento.

Quote of the Week: TV's David Letterman upon hearing that Hillary Clinton had invited House Speaker Newt Gingrich and his bighounded mom to dinner and a tour of the White House: "You know that Newt's mother is now thinking to herself, 'Oh, great. Now we've got to have the bitch over to our house.'" ▼



Gray Davis

GOP presidential candidates. With the entry of Texas Senator Phil Gramm (who will have an easy time raising millions among his Lone Star followers) into the fray, Dole took the first step among many last week when he quietly filed papers with the Federal Election Commission to establish a presidential exploratory committee that will allow him to immediately start raising money for the '96 contest.

I wonder how many people who live in Representative Lynn Woolsey's district (Sonoma and Marin counties) realize just how lucky they are to have this woman in Congress. She's a dedicated, compassionate person, who, thanks to having an openly gay son, is one of our community's best friends.

Harriet Woods, 67, a woman with many friends in the Bay Area and the current president of the bipartisan National Women's Political Caucus, told local amigos that she has decided not to run for

Commentary

more precise.

Gray, 52, who only a couple of years ago ran such a dirty primary campaign against Dianne Feinstein in the battle for the U.S. Senate nomination that many top Democrats dubbed him "political poison," now looks like that party's best bet to regain the governorship in 1998. And though a large number of Californians, Democrats and Republicans alike, probably still don't recognize his name, it is worth pointing out that Gray Davis received more votes last November than any other Democrat in America - more than Mario Cuomo, Ted Kennedy, or Dianne Feinstein.

If current Governor Pete Wilson enters the 1996 presidential sweepstakes and wins, Davis would automatically become governor of the nation's largest state. While many California Democrats still look askance at Davis because of his attacks on DiFi, these same Democrats desperately want to take back the governor's office, and Gray Davis, warts and all, is their best bet. (A run by the lieutenant governor in 1998 would also mark the first time in over a decade that California Democrats nominated a man for that post.)

Expect to see Davis, the highest elected Democrat in state government, attending a lot of rubber-chicken political dinners and granting a lot of favors for Democrats around the state. As the *Los Angeles Times* recently put it in a major story about Davis, "He's not the Democrats' heartthrob, but he has staying power," and that's a big part of the game when it comes to getting elected. Look for Gray Davis, once an unimportant back-bencher in the Democratic Party, to take his

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Unfynyte Cheesecyke
by Tym Snyffen

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Hmm... Hold on and I'll check.

Check?

Yes, with my telepathic link to EVERY OTHER LESBIAN on the planet!

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--need better reception--

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DYKEOTOMY

To Tell the Truth

by Elissa G. Perry

Among nations no one has had more need of full knowledge of itself than the United States, and no one has hitherto had less.

— Orestes Brownson, Civil War social critic

The United States, today, is still moving haltingly toward self-knowledge. Over the last 15 years, progressive social change has been stifled by the agenda of the resurgent, conservative, political right.

This period began in 1980 with both the acquittal of the Miami, Florida police officers who beat a 33-year-old black insurance salesman to death over a traffic violation, sparking the Liberty City riots, and with the election of Ronald Reagan, who ushered in a new era of conservatism. I had hoped that this time had drawn to a close with the acquittal of the police officers in the Rodney King case that set off the L.A. riots (and rioting in other cities) and, finally, with the election of Bill Clinton. But, alas, my hopes have been dashed, slashed, Newtoned if you will.

Although during this period it has been important for us to celebrate Black History Month with pride for our past, vigor in our present and dedication to our future, having a separate month for the recognition of black history has allowed people outside the black community to ignore the needs of

African Americans and view those needs as secondary to those of the general population. However, African-American history — black history — is American history. Our Constitution, this country's mission statement, cannot be fulfilled without the history of all of its people and without the experiences of all its people becoming unexpedient, integrated parts of America, not tangential tales designated for attention only during the short-month of the year.

Having a series of celebrations about our African-American heritage — be they lectures, readings exhibits, concerts — is valuable to the maintenance of our sense of pride

Commentary

and unity. However, we must not ghettoize our celebrations to the one month allotted us. We must not allow vital portions of American history, such as black history, without which this country's history is not a whole truth, to be left out of our nation's heritage ... to be left to less than one-twelfth of the year.

Other peoples have had their pasts negated by the exclusion of their histories from most of American history. Native American cultures were brutally assaulted by the so-called settlers. The wealthier ranks of these same settlers (who actually did more shaking up than they did settling) also hired

Chinese men to perform slave labor in the building of the railroads.

The accounts could go on forever. The absence of the histories of traditionally marginalized peoples makes the history of the United States, as we know it, a disrespectful, destructive and deliberately misleading falsehood.

Martin Luther King Jr., in his "A Testament of Hope" essay, spoke on this same general theme: "The black revolution is much more than a struggle for the rights of Negroes. It is forcing America to face all of its interrelated flaws. ... It is exposing the evils that are rooted deeply in the whole structure of our society."

I had faith that with George Bush out of office, we might have actually found ourselves in a slightly "kinder, gentler nation," where it would be possible to keep a stronger grip on the gains that blacks make, while simultaneously creating change for our future. Unfortunately, Bill Clinton seems to be in the midst of a political identity crisis: Elders was fired, and Newt and his buddies are in office.

We must continue to work toward filling all the gaps in American history and the history of the world. The movement will not end. As the narrator of the *Eyes on the Prize* series, Julian Bond, said, "[A]s long as there are women, men and children of every color and nationality who are willing to stand up, the movement is not yet over." ▼

HEALTH NEWS

Detectable DNA Damage May Cause Breast Cancer

by Lisa Seachrist
UPI Science Writer

WASHINGTON — Potentially cancer-causing DNA damage may be common in the breast cells of healthy women, researchers said Monday, January 9.

The Seattle scientists found that 59 percent of the breast tissue of presumably healthy women contains free-radical damage similar to that found in breast cancer patients.

The researchers envision that the test could one day help women prevent breast cancer before it starts; however, other scientists caution the findings are entirely too preliminary to draw any conclusions.

"We are now operating on a very different paradigm from what the pathologists are operating on," Dr. Donald C. Malins, director of the Molecular Epidemiology Program at Pacific Northwest Research Foundation in Seattle, said in an interview late last week. "We are looking at the earliest changes in the cells that would ordinarily be considered to be healthy."

Malins and his group used a new microscopic technique that can determine the amount of free-radical damage the breast cells have sustained. Free radicals are highly reactive molecules that are formed in response to a variety of cellular reactions.

Cells use antioxidants like vitamins A, C, and E to neutralize the free radicals before they can damage DNA. Researchers believe that some form of a DNA damage is necessary for cancer to start.

Malins' team compared the amount of DNA damage found in the cells of 18 breast cancer patients to the amount of damage found in 29 presumably healthy women. They report in the current issue of the journal *Cancer* that 59 percent of the healthy women had varying degrees of the same type of damage found in breast cancer patients.

"We looked at normal tissue, and there is a gra-

dation of damage," Malins said. "And some of the tissue damages matches that found in the breast cancer patients."

The group refers to this progression of DNA damage as radical-induced DNA disorder (RIDD). And, Malins said, "It is a clearly definable disorder."

Malins suggests that it may be possible to identify women who have "pre-malignant conditions" that predispose them to breast cancer. Those women could reverse that damage and prevent breast cancer by taking either antioxidant vitamins or one day specially designed antioxidant drugs.

"We know from animal studies that antioxidant vitamins can reverse free radical damage," Malins said.

However, not all researchers are as convinced as Malins that his new paradigm will be significant in the clinic.

"It is premature to think that this is anything more than a hot lead," said Dr. Noel Weiss of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle. "To date, there have been no studies showing antioxidants can prevent breast cancer."

Other researchers point to the premise that RIDD is a clearly definable disorder as a major sticking point for the study.

"Their finding is worthy of more investigation," said radiologist Dr. Daniel Kopans of Harvard Medical School. "But, what it says is there is a spectrum of DNA damage in benign tissue and a spectrum in breast cancer tumors and that those spectrums overlap."

Kopans points out that in order to be sure that this DNA damage is a true "pre-malignant condition," the researchers will have to follow a large cohort of women with this type of DNA damage to see how many go on to get breast cancer.

Malins doesn't dispute the need for clinical trials and suspects that his research will "open up tremendous vistas for research." ▼

Femme Club Answers Question 'Where Are the Women Like Us?'



Anita Lynn

by Mary Ann Swissler
East Bay Correspondent

Last June, 37-year-old lesbian Anita Lynn was sitting at home and realized that, despite being out for 14 years, she didn't feel at home anywhere in the lesbian community.

Why the cold shoulder? Lynn said that the majority of her friends are more butch than she, and "Every time we would go and do something, I was made the brunt of all their jokes: 'Can I help you with your tent, honey? Do you need some help with that, honey?' or, 'Oh that Anita, can't go camping without her mascara.'" (For the record, Anita does a mean rendition of Madonna).

"I began to feel like I verbally needed to battle them, telling them I run a department in an international corporation. I can handle my own tent," said Lynn, who works as a marketing executive for an Emeryville-based computer corporation.

"I started feeling really lonely for people more like me."

When she retreated into the club scene, Lynn said most of the women were too young for her. "At 37, I was going to The Cafe and it felt more like I should be there picking up my daughter. ... Nothing fit for me."

And then she got a brainstorm. "I just thought, 'I'm going to run an ad.' The first ad brought over 60 responses. It filled up the mailbox so quickly that the newspaper called me and told me to pick up my messages." She started a database and answers lots of calls with the enthusiasm and the understanding of a therapist. It started with a private party, and after talking with members Lynn came up with the name and the concepts.

First off, it's not a meat market, but a vehicle to develop friendships, she said. Of course, many couples have joined, and romance has been known to blossom. The worst misconception, Lynn said, is that they're "a bunch of rich, white bitches in high heels with high hair. That's not it."

She also stressed that makeup and designer dresses are not membership

requirements, either. In fact, she's heard from many butch women who haven't felt free to do much else besides emulate men. What, then, is femininity? "It can't be defined, but it's an underlying energy that is sweet, giving, unafraid of sharing. It's real peaceful. It's very powerful."

"It's amazing how many women come to this who are really giving. I've gotten so used to lesbians being so taking and so angry, and it just might be my experience, but I have a hunch that it isn't."

Femme-to-Femme meets regularly in San Francisco as well as in the East Bay, for a wide range of activities reaching out primarily to groups of women she said are often left out of the typical scene for gay women: women of color, lesbians over 40, bisexuals, and single mothers.

Future Femme to Femme events this month include dinner and dancing at the Hibachi in San Francisco on January 21, and an East Bay Rap Group on January 22, at Anita's house in Hercules. For more information, call Anita Lynn at (510) 741-9662, Ext. 2. ▼

St. Pat's

Continued from page 1

Boston Allied War Veterans Council.

"If GLIB's inclusion in the 1995 parade were compelled, the veterans' protest would be confused and muted. Indeed the veterans' protest would be silenced because they would again cancel the parade," Wolf ruled.

Wolf said he "regrets" that being barred from the parade could be "personally painful" to members of the group.

Boston Mayor Thomas Menino said the city would comply with the ruling and issue the permit.

There was no immediate word from GLIB's attorneys on whether they would appeal the decision, but a spokesperson for the group denounced the ruling.

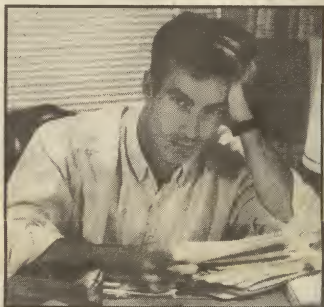
"This is nothing but pure bigotry and discrimination, and it should not be tolerated in the United States of America," said Cliff Arneson.

The U.S. Supreme Court is already expected to hear an appeal this spring from the veterans, who are attempting to overturn a Massachusetts Supreme Court ruling that required gays to take part in the Boston parade.

But a ruling in that case is not expected in time for this year's parade on March 19.

The state courts had ruled the veterans could not exclude gay groups because the parade in effect is a public event, and to bar them would violate the state public accommodations law.

But the veterans canceled the 1994 march rather than comply, saying that allowing GLIB to participate in what it deems a "family-oriented" event violates its own right to free speech. ▼



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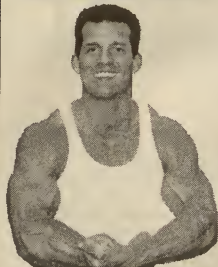
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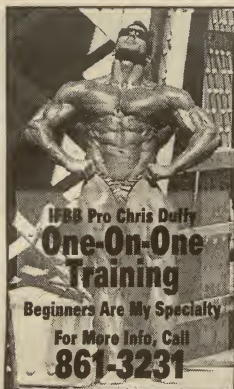
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Guerneville

Continued from page 1

"Several of the staff members went to the office on River Road at about noon Sunday and started making lists of clients. We looked up addresses and compared them to known flood areas. Then there were other, newer, clients and we weren't sure what their status was — so we just made phone calls to most of our clients in the river area.

"We made some physical visits as early as Sunday, when we were in doubt as to their safety status. Several of the people we talked to — we wanted to make sure they were not flooding at the moment, and to make plans to get them out if they were to become endangered. We wanted to make sure if they were going to stay they had plenty of food and water."

"After making the assessment on Sunday," he continued, "we then made a plan to evacuate some of the people we had talked to. And we decided to check on a couple of people we hadn't heard from. We broke into three teams, in four-wheel drive vehicles.

"Myself and one of the social workers found two guys who happened to live next door to

one another, right next to the river in one room cabins: one in his late 30s and the other in his late 40s. One was really thinking he was probably okay. The other was completely oblivious to the danger, due to a combination of fatigue, confusion, perhaps dementia. He was planning on staying.

"We had to convince them to leave. They brought a couple of bags, a change of clothes and a little bit of food. One of them took his cat and dog.

"We found emergency shelter for them. One was sent to Santa Rosa to stay with friends and we put several people up in hotels in Santa Rosa. Some went to private homes offered by volunteers.

"About an hour after we got them out of there, the road closed to the area due to flooding, and we would not have been able to accomplish that," Dean said.

Fortunately, in the Guerneville area there were no deaths and no serious injuries among people with AIDS, Dean said.

"After that — once we had assured that people were safe," he told the *B.A.R.*, "we turned our attention to the office itself and removed all of our active client files and computer equipment. This was our last chance: we only had a few hours to do all of this.

"We eventually got 4.5 feet of water in the building," Dean said.

While losses were substantial — Dean said the Guerneville facility was pretty well wiped out — there was no dollar amount available at press time.

"The only things really we were able to save were important files and computer equipment," Dean said. These were taken to the Santa Rosa office. Now all of the staff is working on top of one another in Santa Rosa. Dean and others were assessing the safety of the Guerneville building, but it was too early to tell yet whether it will be feasible to move back into it.

The good news, Dean said, is that "all services are still available. Just because we lost the building does not mean that clients will have to wait for any services.

"We're going to need a lot of things eventually: we are still sorting through the debris trying to figure out what is salvageable. But we will definitely need desks, chairs, and a fax machine," Dean said. ▼

■ **Donations of money or equipment may be sent to: Face to Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network, 873 Second Street, Santa Rosa, CA., 95404 Or call the Santa Rosa office at (707) 544-1581 if you wish to help.**

WHAT NOW?

What's Up Now the Water's Down in Sonoma County?

Because of receding water levels in the Russian River, which fell below flood stage for the first time in a week, the Sonoma County Emergency Operations Center went on standby status at noon, Sunday January 15.

Prior to shutting down, the emergency operations center provided information valuable to residents of the Guerneville area:

- A local assistance center (LAC) opened at the Bank of America, located at 16390 Main Street in Guerneville. It is scheduled to be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. everyday, including weekends, for the next two weeks.

- To obtain assistance on the following topics, use the following numbers:

(All numbers listed are area code 707)

Animals, lost and found.....524-7100

Building inspections/permits.....869-1394

Housing/shelter.....869-2286

Human services.....869-0983

Health services.....869-1098

Mental health services.....869-2075

- FEMA recovery assistance is available by phone between 6 a.m. and 12 midnight, by calling toll-free 1-800-462-9029 or 1-800-462-7535 for TDD users. Phones are provided at the LAC for residents to call FEMA.

- Law enforcement check points for entry into the area remained in effect as of Sunday.

- Sonoma County crews with California Environmental Protection Agency began door-to-door collection of household hazardous waste Sunday. Clean-up efforts by county crews and National Guardsman continue. Residents are requested to separate hazardous waste and building materials from commercial debris, and place them at the side of the road in a manner that will not block the road itself. ▼

— Kent Brandlely



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Alameda HRC

Continued from page 4

County. He said that one of the first orders of business will be to revive a roundtable made up of police, social workers, and other county administrators, which met in 1990.

On further study, Reyes said that gays and lesbians spoke up the most, a testament to the work done by gay organizations. "We think it was due to a

higher level of consciousness as to people's rights. If they don't say anything about their sexual orientation, a cop might not be able to put it together."

No new funding will go into Reyes's new duties, which illustrates, he said, the low cost of the plans he has in mind: forms, posters, meeting space, and honorariums for speakers. "It would be a show of support to acknowledge the level of expertise that exists in this community," he said. ▼

SFPD Preys on Gay Man Who Prays on the Street

by Kent Brandley

A Bay Area gay man says he paused on his way to work to pray silently on the Eugenia Street steps in Bernal Heights last month, for which he was detained, questioned, and searched by a San Francisco police officer who advised him in the future not to pray out of doors.

"Animal" Joe Smith, an openly gay and HIV-positive man in active fellowship as a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in San Francisco for the past four years, told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "I was detained for praying silently to myself on the Eugenia Street Steps in Bernal Heights on the morning of Thursday, December 29."

Smith is a gay activist/religious/political/theater artist who has attended Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley and is currently touring a show called *Sex and the Savage Lutheran*. A front page story in the *San Francisco Chronicle* included a full-color inside photo of him holding a flute and hugging another man.

"I'm in the habit, when leaving the house, to begin my morning prayer and finish up before catching the bus on Mission Street. Most of the time I will go down the Eugenia Street steps in a direct line between my house on Elsie Street and the bus on Mission. This morning I stopped on the first landing and looked at the view to the north."

On that morning, he said, at "about 9 a.m., I was going to work in the financial district. I was just about finished with my prayer, I had been there about three minutes looking at the view - I had seen the officer drive by about a minute earlier - I saw him look at me, but I thought nothing of it at this point. Then the officer appeared at the top of the steps" as Smith finished his prayer and started down the steps.

The officer then allegedly called Smith over, asking, "Why do you walk away when you see me?" to which Smith responded that he was catching the bus to work.

When the cop demanded to know what Smith was doing, and learned that Smith was finishing his prayer, Smith said the officer took his knapsack away from him "and starts pat searching me." On that particular morning it contained a paperback Bible and various personal items.

Smith claims the officer asked, "You got ID on you?" but when he reached for his wallet, the cops said, "Don't go for your ID, you'll just get in more trouble."

Smith told the B.A.R. the officer ordered him to wait while he wrote out a parking citation for someone else's car parked illegally in a red zone at the top of the steps. Eventually the cop returned, Smith recalled: "He takes my ID, gets into his squad car, and summons me over to the passenger side window as he begins to type on his computer."

He asked the last time Smith had been arrested, and why, to



Keep it in the schools: "Animal" J. Smith on the Eugenia Street steps.

which Smith says he answered truthfully: "Two years ago in city center in Oakland for smoking pot in public."

"Why do you want to waste your time doing something like that?" the cop asked.

"Well officer, I'm HIV-positive and I do it so that I can eat regularly."

The gay and AIDS questions

According to Smith, the cop asked, "How did you get it, are you a drug user?"

"I would prefer not to respond to that question."

"Well in case I need to search you again, you might have a syringe on you. ..."

"No officer, I'm a gay man." Smith says the officer then did a double take, looked at his driver's license, looked back at Smith, and said, "You're a gay man, huh?"

"Well, if that's your lifestyle, if that's the way you want to live your life, then we won't say anything about it, we'll just leave it at that," the officer allegedly told him.

But before leaving Smith, the policeman also allegedly asked, "Who you prayin' to?" and "What religion are you?" Eventually he gave Smith his ID back and said, "Well, in the future, pray inside your home or pray in church but don't pray outside because it looks suspicious with you just standing there. Now take your bag and get out of here!"

Smith said he was unable to note the officer's badge, but knows he was in squad car number 068. He told the B.A.R. the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Citizens United Against Violence (CUAV), and Supervisor Tom Ammann are all looking into the matter, and that he will file a complaint with the Office of Citizen's Complaints (OCC). Although the ACLU indicated it could not offer representation, Smith said the organization was troubled by any officer's admonishment against praying out of doors.

Smith also said he learned from the ACLU that police must have cause for stopping a person, and must have reasonable suspicion for a specific illegal activity to search his bag - which he alleges was searched without consent. In San Francisco officers can't

ask for your ID without that same reasonable suspicion. They said basically it was up to Smith to decide what comments by the officer were appropriate regarding HIV and his sexual orientation. Smith told the B.A.R. he felt none of them were appropriate.

"I'm looking for a good Constitutional lawyer," he said.

According to Smith, the incident has had a chilling effect on his prayer life.

"I don't feel I can stop out-doors and say a silent prayer to myself anywhere now, without first looking over my shoulder to make sure there are no cops around."

"Additionally, I have to ask myself: if I had answered the wrong God when he asked me, 'Who you prayin' to?' would I have gone to jail?" ▼



Bob Johansen

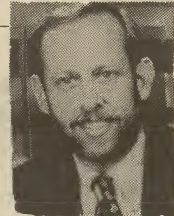
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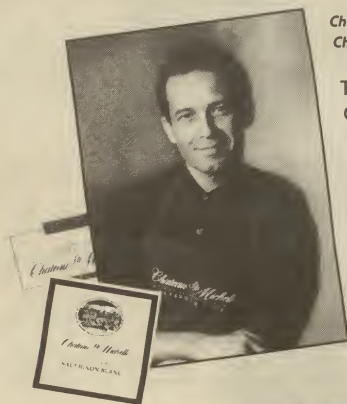
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GLAAD

"Serving" Isn't Silenced

by Al Kielwasser

Next month (February 6) – and during a sweeps week, no less – NBC will air the made-for-television movie *Serving in Silence: The Margarette Cammermeyer Story*. Produced by Barbra Streisand, this biopic tells the true life story of a Colonel who was discharged from the U. S. military when she stated she was a lesbian. Glenn Close stars in the lead role, while actress Judy Davis plays her on-screen lover.

A group calling itself the "Family Defense Fund" recently initiated a campaign to halt the showing of a lesbian kissing scene in *Serving in Silence*. "Family Defense Fund" members were instructed to call the NBC Audience Response Line and demand that the network censor any visible signs of lesbian love. However, a number of lesbian/gay/bisexual community groups got wind of this attempt, and succeeded in sending a different message to NBC. The network received a rush of supportive calls and, as a result, NBC promised that it would not censor or edit the kiss.

The importance of this victory shouldn't be underestimated. For the most part, television networks continue to insist that it's acceptable to show two people of the same sex killing – but not kissing – each other. Send comments to Warren Littlefield, President, NBC Entertainment, 3000 West Alameda Avenue, Burbank, CA 91523, tel. 212-664-2333.

Public Hate, Private Love

The January 10 broadcast of the daily news program *CBS This Morning* included an interview with conservative radio talk show host David Brudnoy, whose popular broadcasts are carried to dozens of states. Based in Boston, the top-rated Brudnoy recently revealed that he is both gay and HIV-positive.

Paula Zahn, host of *CBS This Morning*, conducted a remarkably shallow interview with Brudnoy, her old friend and former colleague. She asked uninformed questions about the homosexual "lifestyle" and failed to interrogate the contradictions between Brudnoy's political ideology and his sexual orientation.

Brudnoy explained that his decision to come out was not entirely a voluntary one. Because he considered his sexual orientation a "personal matter," he had refused to discuss it. Brudnoy's decision to come out was made only after he collapsed on-air with AIDS-related pneumonia.

Zahn did ask Brudnoy what reaction he had received from fellow conservatives. He responded: "There's a very strong, almost an emotional overkill about hostility to the homosexual life as it were. And yes I do believe the response I've gotten from people who are significant conservatives, friends of mine, across the land, Bill Buckley of *National Review* ... and a variety of other people ... all responding with warmth and affection. So I think that people are more generous than their ideology might indicate. I think a lot of people ideologically stand with big postures – 'Oh those homosexuals, etc., etc.' – but when it comes right down to the personal, people are much more warm, much more generous. And I've had nothing but support. ..."

Despite the certain benefits that will arise from Brudnoy's new, gay visibility, his "logic" is extraordinary, and contemptible.

In effect, Brudnoy – a media professional who should know better – is suggesting that public hate is irrelevant; let homophobes rant all they want out loud, as long as they say (or at least act like) they "love" you in private. Because he and William F. Buckley are private "friends," for example, Brudnoy excuses Buckley's public homophobia (among other atrocities, Buckley wrote an opinion piece for *The New York Times* in which he argued that people with HIV/AIDS should be forcibly tattooed).

In fact, the individual byproducts of hate – job discrimination, name-calling, bashing – ferment in the collective expressions of homophobia. The power of that public hate is widely-dispersed – and significantly inflated – when expressed through the mass media. We continue to count the suicides of too many young queers who – not privy to William Buckley's private thoughts – only heard what he said in public.

Share your thoughts – public or private – with David Brudnoy, WBZ Radio, 1170 Soldiers Field, Boston, MA 02134, tel. 617-787-7000. Comments can also be directed to Paula Zahn, *CBS This Morning*, CBS News, 524 W. 57th Street, New York, NY 10019, tel. 212-975-4321.

Media Briefs

• **SPORTING ALTERNATIVE:** ... The Winter '95-95 issue of *The Women's Sports Connection* offers a thoughtful answer to the question "Is Homophobia an Issue for Women's Sports?" This quarterly tabloid "seeks to increase the visibility of women and girls in sports." For details, write to *Women's Sports Connection*, P.O. Box 31580, S.F., CA 94131-0580.

We must confront the media's homophobia in order to cure it! To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage call our 24-hour media watch hotline at 415-861-4588, or write to "Media Watch," Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/San Francisco Bay Area chapter, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103; tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail glad sfba@aol.Com.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Howard Wallace, Others Speak of Inclusion Proposed Labor Party Values Lesbians, Gays

by Vince Quackenbush

A public hearing was held Saturday, January 14, in Hayward to begin drafting a platform for a founding convention of a new Labor Party to be launched later this year at a founding convention in Denver.

Among prominent labor leaders testifying at the hearing was Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance Co-Chair Howard Wallace, who holds a seat on the executive Board of the San Francisco Labor Council, stated that "Any Labor Party, if it is to have any meaningful existence, must address the concerns of lesbian and gay workers, who enter the workforce in their teens and must live their entire life in hiding. This is a national scandal." Wallace also pointed out the need of a Labor Party to support the right of women to free choice.

An Alameda County Union member with AIDS, John Iverson, represented the AIDS Cure Coalition. He asked that the new Party support the AIDS Cure Act, H.R. 4370, as part of a comprehensive Health and AIDS Policy.

Numerous local, state, and national labor leaders gave testi-

mony about the need to form a new party. Alameda County Labor Leader Owen Marron said that both major parties represent the same thing: "the interests of the corporations."

Harley Shaiken, a professor of Labor and Global Politics at UC Berkeley, pointed out that workers have not shared in the much-touted economic recovery. "By any standard, real incomes have been declining. The gap between rich and poor is the greatest than at any time since 1945," she said. "Median family income has declined by \$1,200 since 1991."

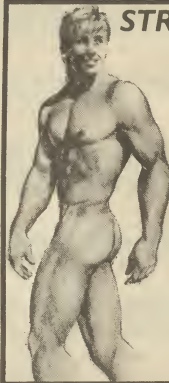
Most notable among those invited to give testimony was former California Governor Jerry Brown. He pointed out that none of Labor's major objectives have been achieved under the Clinton Administration. "Our system requires that 10,000,000 workers remain unemployed to cool inflation. The real inflation fighters are the people who remain idle. The work of a Labor Party is to refuse to accept the BS and Schmooze coming out of Washington, Sacramento, and City Hall."

Other speakers pointed out the need to reach out to other

communities. Union activists from such organizations as the Coalition of Labor Union Women; the A. Phillip Randolph Institute; and the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement pointed out the need for a party to be broadly representative of the workforce at large, and for such a party to champion the rights of unorganized workers as well.

The Hayward hearing was just one of several to be held regionally prior to the national organizing convention to be held later this year in Denver, where a Labor Party will be proclaimed. ▼

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Can You Beat This Fundraiser?

by Dennis Conkin

Some activities by AIDS activists have been called "political masturbation" by detractors. While that may sound derisive, it is in fact the best description of ACT UP/Golden Gate's next fundraiser.

On February 14 the group will hold The Joycelyn Elders Valentine's Day Masturbate-A-Thon to raise money for its AIDS direct action and advocacy work. It won't be the first fundraiser where people just stand around shaking hands, but it will be done with a difference at this affair, organizers promise.

The five-hour marathon kicks off at 7 p.m. at EROS, a Center For Safe Sex, located at 2051 Market Street. ACT UP will provide basic supplies such as towels and associated items, and will set aside "a boy's room and a girl's room, and a boy and girl's room," according to spokesman Jeff Getty.

The group wanted to spoof the recent controversy involving former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders, who was fired for answering a question about masturbation on World AIDS Day last December.

"We've named it in her honor and no, we don't have her permission," Getty said.

One more thing: "We have invited celebrity masturbators," Getty said. ▼

■ For more information about the event contact ACT UP/Golden Gate at 252-9200.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Gay Men Allege Torm

by Mary Ann Swissler
East Bay Correspondent

Former accountant Bill Weinerth has some advice for gays like himself considering a move to San Jose: *Don't*. Unless, of course, you've got buckets of cash. According to Weinerth and his HIV-positive roommate "Vladie" Mojica, you'll need it to confront prejudice that San Jose police refuse to confront — and sometimes, in fact, even join in.

Weinerth and Nicaragua-born Mojica say they're speaking from personal experience. After 30 years of residing in Santa Clara County without being issued so much as a traffic ticket, Weinerth now finds himself with an arrest record and his Park West condo stuffed with legal briefs and assorted documentation for a \$15 million lawsuit against the Park West Homeowners Association and a \$25 million claim against the San Jose Police Department.

This extraordinary grievance — U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein has referred the matter to the State of California Department of Justice, the FBI has opened its own investigation, and the plaintiffs say the resulting lost wages, medical bills, and lawyer fees have "totally wiped us out financially" — began as a neighbor-to-neighbor complaint a little over a year ago.

According to court documents, it all could have been prevented if one of the five homeowners association board members now named in a lawsuit had simply stopped Weinerth's and Mojica's neighbor, Frank Orosco, from engaging in daily anti-gay behavior. San Jose gay civil rights attorney Bruce W. Nickerson said, "What you have here in Frank Orosco is a vitriolic homophobe who terrorized my clients night and day for darn near a year."

Weinerth told the *B.A.R.* that he felt lucky to return safely from a stint in the Navy during the Vietnam War, but on his native soil he feels he's been held hostage in his San Jose home: because of Orosco and events set in motion by Orosco, he claims he and Mojica have had guns pointed at them by home association members, have been taunted at board meetings, and have been subject to frequent police visits for excessive noise complaints, as recently as the afternoon of this past New Year's Eve. (At the time he was supposed to be excessively banging on his wall, he says he and Mojica were food shopping.)

Members of the homeowners association were negligent, according to the suit, in ignoring complaints about Orosco and allowed a string of incidents to happen unabated: daily name calling, banging on the walls, and "egging" their patio, according to court documents, as well as a more serious charge that Orosco tried to run Mojica over with his car. Nickerson expressed confidence that eyewitness reports will bear out Weinerth's and Mojica's story.

Board members are further liable for eventually joining in the harassment of two law-abiding residents, said Nickerson. "The more they didn't [respond to complaints], the more frustrated and the more angry my clients became," he said. "And the more desperate their calls for assistance became."

Complaints and counter-complaints

Trouble that had been brewing for months began to boil over when Orosco filed a complaint against the gay men on August 19, 1994, according to court documents. A San Jose police officer who responded to the call entered the house, apparently against Weinerth's express wishes; as the officer talked with Mojica, who said he planned a counter-complaint against Orosco, Weinerth called 911. The officer at the scene later told another officer Weinerth threatened to kill him, which neighbor Ellen Ginn, a paralegal, later refuted. The officer left.

A week later, on August 24, a distraught Weinerth called board member James Slider about Orosco's harassment. If something wasn't done, he said, there would be people in body bags, referring to Weinerth and Mojica. The same officer arrived with other police to find Weinerth upset and uncooperative, and despite knowledge of the nearly year-long dispute, they say they had reason to believe he was dangerous.

"The cops just found an opportunity to do some gay bashing," said Weinerth.

He told the *B.A.R.* he still wakes up nights screaming, medicated but traumatized from that night, when San Jose police arrested him for making terrorist threats and dragged him handcuffed, head first down the staircase. Weinerth, who has cancer, has since developed high blood pressure and heart palpitations, and has persistent pain in his arms and wrists from the handcuffs, according to medical records. Neighbor Ginn, who has lived at Park West for three years, witnessed the arrest and wrote in a letter of support that Weinerth "was not resisting arrest, and I feel the officers used excessive force."

"I also witnessed the officers searching Bill Weinerth's kitchen cupboards, opening drawers, and looking in the garage," she wrote. "I asked them if they had a search warrant, and they said no, and I asked them to cease searching immediately." She said she never heard the statement that is perhaps the

most serious charge lodged against them. They told Mojica "faggots" and "tried to get them to ease up," she was in a different room to have been said. Weinerth counsel for his suit against the department.

Part of the complaint against a double standard of treatment in 1994, Mojica alleges, he was Slider with a restraining order nearly a half foot taller, police armed Mojica. Police a condo complex — apparently made a report but refused Slider who was by then according to Mojica.

The Homeowners Association's version

Association Secretary President Chris Jarvie, a Berger told the *Bay Area* with everything alleged in lawsuit, except Orosco's ownership at Park West.

"I have been practicing don't think I have ever seen as eyewitnesses [than Weinerth] flatly stated. However, he a problems rarely have clear guys, "Orosco certainly is O'Connell intervened for a January 21, 1994 letter to ing to court documents. "I made, and death threats spe bian or gay sexual orienta then she has withdrawn Jarvie in a slander suit again

The board, Berger told early on that Orosco was a maximum allowable meas association to take. "There's can do," he said. This culm Orosco on August 23, 19 harassing and irritating othe ation, a restraining order, a ney fees.

O'Connell said that the thing possible to both e Mojica's rights as outlined and to ensure Orosco's due that said could not remove Orosco for neighbor comp threats were made.

"It's hard for a homeov the police," said Jarvie, alth problems of conscience i Mojica and Weinerth.

The plan of action again the *B.A.R.*, included a letter 1994 saying if further rules didn't stay away from his fined. On April 21, 1994, \$100 for violating the ter beginning of July, 1994. Weinerth and Mojica contin went to attorney Berger, w court action would be take association rules; and on advised in writing that inju

Pool privileges revoked over death threats

Neighbor Ginn said Homeowners Association, what their function is. The they were elected and they'tive duties for the people w board's most effective sca owners in line is the threa \$100. She said she and her O'Connell over minor infra use of outside water, and dropped only after threat of

"They're kind of brutish On August 17, the Park v censuring Orosco as to vot area privileges, including t clubhouse. Finally, on Au with the formal complaint. Orosco's property for othe B.A.R., and he was finally e his mortgage.

Jarvie and O'Connell s Slider felt he was under the Weinerth and Mojica. Mo and O'Connell, told them "were going down," by wh meant they would be kick defended Slider's decision and said he had moved from the situation. He declined to

O'Connell stressed the members were merely carry vided to them by attorney B

Arrest, False Arrests at San Jose Condo

ge lodged against the officers, that "faggots have no rights" when he to ease up on Weinerth, and says rent room at the time it is alleged d. Weinerth has obtained separate suit against the San Jose police

plaint against the police concerns d of treatment. On November 8, ges, he was serving resident James training order and Slider, who is t taller, pointed a handgun at the Police again showed up in the apparently called by Slider - and it refused to detain or investigate by then "inside his own home," ica.

ers version Secretary Martha O'Connell, Jarvie, and their attorney Alan Bay Area Reporter they disagreed alleged in Weinerth's and Mojica's Orosco's unsuitability for home West.

practicing law for 23 years, and I ever seen two people less credible than Weinerth and Mojica," Berger ever, he added, although domestic have clear-cut good guys and bad certainly is one of the bad guys."

erved for Mojica and Weinerth in 94 letter to the association, accord- ments. "I have heard death threats threats specific to those with a les- al orientation," she wrote. Since thdrawn her support and joined r suit against the pair.

berger told the B.A.R., recognized sco was an instigator and took the ble measures for a homeowner's e. "There's only so much the board This culminated in a suit served to st 23, 1994, charging him with ating other members of the associ- g order, and an order to pay attor-

d that the entire board did every- o both enforce Weinerth's and s. outlined under association rules, sco's due process rights. She added t remove or otherwise legally evict bor complaints, even when death e.

a homeowner's association to call arvie, although they lacked similar science in calling the police on erth.

tion against Orosco, as outlined to ed a letter to Orosco on January 18, ther rules were violated (i.e., if he from his neighbors) he would be 21, 1994 the board fined Orosco g the terms of the letter; in the ly, 1994 after complaints from jica continued unabated, the board Berger, who informed Orosco that d be taken if he did not abide by e, and on July 25, Orosco was t injunction was going ahead.

s revoked reats

nn said of the Park West ocation, "They don't understand on is. They don't understand that and they're there to do administra- people who live here." She said the ctive scare tactic to keep condo the threat of fines, which start at e and her partner have battled with minor infractions, such as improper ater, and were able to get fines r threat of a lawsuit. of brutish," she said.

the Park West board went so far in as to vote to revoke his common cluding use of the pool, spa, and y, on August 23, he was served complaint. There was a lien against r for other reasons, Jarvie told the s finally evicted after failing to pay

Connell said that on August 24, under threat of physical harm by jica. Mojica, according to Jarvie old them both that they and Slider n," by which Mojica now says he d be kicked off the board. They decision to call San Jose police, oved from the complex because of declined to speak with the B.A.R. essed that she and other board rely carrying out legal advice pro- attorney Berger. She added that she

spoke with police in July about Orosco's anti-gay slurs, but the District Attorney's office declined to press charges. She also said she felt violated when she was outed as a lesbian after a board meeting, since none of the board members knew of her sexual orientation.

Added Jarvie, "Why they have turned on us and not vented their fury on Mr. Orosco is beyond us."

Weinerth said they did not bring the police in until July 11, and instead had an attorney write a letter in March 1994 to the board about Orosco. "The board is responsible for enforcing [association rules], it's not police business. We were trying to work through the system, and we didn't think it was police business," said Weinerth.

Attorney Nickerson added, "They tried [to work with the police], and unfortunately members of the board characterized them as making terrorist threats against them. When the police finally came out, they arrested my clients."

The fallout so far

Weinerth said this is not the life he envisioned, moving back from Lake Tahoe into the condo he purchased in 1989 so his friend Vladie Mojica could enjoy his last days in peace. So far, Mojica's price in all this has been his health: he's gone from being HIV-positive with a 400 T-cell count to developing full-blown AIDS with a T-cell count of 200.

Weinerth worked with the city of Sunnyvale as an accountant until July 1994, when his contract ended. He said that stress-related illnesses prevented him



William Weinerth shows the bruises on his injured right arm allegedly inflicted by the San Jose police in an August 24 attack at his condo.

from assuming his next post with the city of Millbrae.

Nickerson said the District Attorney's Office agreed that the charge of terrorist threats was absurd, although Weinerth's bond was still set at \$5,000 and he was charged with disturbing the peace for yelling at the officers. He is now under court order not to

speak with any of the board members. "If I say one word to them I could go back to jail again," Weinerth said.

Meanwhile, O'Connell and Jarvie have claimed in a counter-suit filed on January 3, "Because Mr. Mojica is diagnosed with AIDS, cross complainants fear that he has little to lose from a continuing course of terrorism." And Mojica is also suing Jarvie, an openly gay man, for allegedly promising an end to their torment in exchange for sexual favors. Jarvie said those allegations "are completely untrue, have no basis in fact, and are complete, total fabrications."

Teresa Guerrero Daley, San Jose's Independent Police Auditor, guessed it would take another month for her department's investigation. She offered no explanation for the length, but Daley has publicly complained about unnecessary delays in police harassment cases. There were 243 citizen complaints against San Jose police from September 1993 to September 1994, she said. Daley confirmed that all officers undergo cultural diversity training.

Although the condo remains unsold, Weinerth said he and Mojica have had enough. "None of the other homeowners are standing up to them and standing by me. I just want out." Ginn told the B.A.R. five other condos are for sale, and blamed it at least partly on the board's misuse of authority, its closed financial books, and its closed meetings that do not allowing questions.

By the time the ordeal is over, said a disillusioned Weinerth, "Vladie will be dead and I will be dead." ▼

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Nevirapine
Two groups of volunteers with 200-500 CD4: those who have taken AZT for 4-24 months, who receive either AZT plus NVP or AZT plus placebo, and those who have not taken antiretrovirals, who receive NVP or placebo. The study offers cross-over to active drug for all participants. Boehringer Ingelheim.

For further information,
please call Mark Bowers at (415) 353-6215.
HIVCare is a program of the Clinical Research Department
at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde St., SF 94109.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Bats to Their Belfry

Protection from crazies by using bats was one of several self-defense techniques demonstrated at the Jan. 14 monthly CUAV self-defense class. Other techniques included strikes to such vulnerable body parts as the knee, elbow and groin; defense maneuvers on the ground; and protective uses of such common articles as credit cards, magazines and umbrellas. Jo Ann Strang is the instructor, and registration is possible by calling CUAV at 777-5500.

Photo: Rick Gerhart

Gay Pilots Association Takes Off

by Kent Brandley

The skies are not always friendly to lesbian and gay pilots. Fortunately, there's a group to make their ride a little less turbulent.

The National Gay Pilots Association (NGPA) has now formed as a not-for-profit national organization to meet the unique needs of gay and lesbian aviators across the country, NGPA's newly elected Executive Director Ron Swanda told the *B.A.R.* in an interview from the association's headquarters in Washington, D.C.

The NGPA held its initial meeting last November, at which goals and subjects of interest were discussed, including aviation career choices for gay and lesbian pilots; the establishment of a supportive network for all aviators; and plans to educate pilots about civil and job rights of gay and lesbian aviators, which Swanda said is an all-important safety issue.

"Many gay and lesbian pilots are confronted with the homophobia of other pilots or company management. This can damage pilot-to-pilot cockpit communications and could even reduce the margin of safety," he warned. "NGPA will help educate its members about how to deal with

this homophobia in a manner which encourages healthy cockpit communication and enhances the margin of safety."

The NGPA is the successor of the Gay Pilots Association, which was not incorporated but was first organized in 1991, he explained. The NGPA currently has over 400 members in 45 states and five other countries, he added.

"The pilot and aviation communities are among the last to acknowledge, much less accept, the presence of gays and lesbians," Swanda said. "For example, NGPA recently received an anonymous letter from an alleged group of airline pilots, along with several carefully cut-out, pink paper triangles, that said: 'Why don't you just wear these instead of wings! Death to fags!'"

Swanda also said that *Flying* — a widely read aviation magazine published by Hachette Magazines, Inc. — recently refused to carry a paid classified advertisement about the NGPA.

"Most people, including gays and lesbians themselves, don't realize that gay and lesbian pilots are already flying throughout the industry, including airlines, corporate aviation, and general aviation. It is not unusual for us to receive letters

from new members exclaiming how, before they learned of the NGPA, they believed they were the only gay or lesbian pilot in the country," Swanda said.

"Through our national magazine, and by hosting regional and national events, the NGPA will help correct the misperception that gays and lesbians in aviation are alone. Better networking among gay and lesbian pilots is desperately needed," Swanda added.

Membership in NGPA is open to anyone, including commercial pilots, corporate pilots, general aviation pilots, student pilots, managers, flight attendants and aviation aficionados, Swanda said. Annual dues are \$35, and a special rate of \$10 per year is offered for full-time college students or full-time certified flight instructors. NGPA members receive a glossy quarterly magazine that includes stories of gays and lesbians in aviation, job listings, and lists of pilot/aviation contacts across the country in addition to other information. ▼

■ For membership information call NGPA at (703) 660-3852 or write to NGPA, Department N, P.O. Box 27542, Washington, D.C. 20038-7542.

Reality Bytes For Prospective Pilots

by Kent Brandley

Anyone who read the story about the Gay Pilots Association, above, and wistfully wished they had held fast to childhood dreams of being a Top Gun, might be happy to know that today's technology makes it possible for *anyone* to fly a plane. Well, virtually.

The January, 1995 issue of *High Tech Gazette*, put out by High Tech Gays (professionals in high technology industry) and edited by Dale Benjamin, describes the following outing of interest:

"VR Fighter — Sunday, February 19

"Have you ever wanted to experience a full-motion flight simulator? Well, here's your chance! You'll be strapped into a single seat X-21 Hornet pod, where you will compete with five other participants. Cost is \$17 — \$20. Depending upon the group's interest, we may also meet in the area for lunch or dinner. Contact John at (408) 289-1484 to sign up."

Unfortunately, the *B.A.R.*'s request for further information was not answered by presstime. Still, it's the kind of outing that could make anyone feel like a new man. And it might be the kind of outing where you could find one. This event is so neat we almost hate to share it. ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS



Photo: Rick Gerharter

Where there's smoke: Activists juggle fiery batons before a Jan. 11 Police Commission meeting at the Hall of Justice concerning the raid on the Visual Aid benefit New Year's Eve.

Rave

Continued from page 1

responded to calls for assistance at the event.

Reid told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the ordeal continued after he was arrested on charges of public drunkenness and taken to the Hall of Justice for booking. An officer filling out paperwork on his arrest paperwork asked his height and weight. Reid alleges, and became upset and demanded to know what was wrong with him when Reid replied that he was 5'5" and weighed 123 pounds.

"The implication was that I was ill," he recalled. "He kind of like stepped back."

"They found a card for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation in my wallet. I'm a caregiver for a roommate with AIDS. I couldn't see it because he was behind me, but he was going through my wallet and saying, 'Uh oh, look at this,' and they stepped back away from me and started putting on latex gloves."

Reid said he was also questioned about a condom that was found in his wallet.

"I started getting really scared. I was already terrorized. I had been beaten two times and had no idea what was going on," he told the *B.A.R.*

Reid also said that when he was told that he was arrested on charges of public drunkenness, he was not informed by arresting officers he had the right to a breathalyzer test.

Tell it to the Chief

Reid and others who charged or said they witnessed police misconduct detailed their allegations to the police commission about the incident, following a report by Deputy Chief Thomas Petrini.

Petrini's report said that the charges of unauthorized force and anti-gay slurs by officers were under investigation by the Department's Management Control Division, and that a full report would be issued in about 6-8 weeks.

Petrini reiterated prior police explanations that the action was a routine police action against "an illegal rave."

Petrini also told the commission that Visual AID executive director Wayne Salazar has publicly denied that event was sponsored by the non-profit AIDS agency.

An initial January 3 press statement by Salazar said that although Visual AID did not organize the party, it was glad to have the support of organizers and "readily agreed" to be the party's beneficiary.

A January 5 press release

included the statement, but then added a damning paragraph. "Because Visual AID had nothing to do with the party, they are not party to the police action," it said.

"Visual AID did not pay bail for the 11 arrested parties, nor is Visual AID filing any complaint against the City or the Police Department. No one from Visual AID attended the party," Salazar said.

Reid, a 25-year-old multimedia conceptual artist who moved from Seattle to San Francisco to attend the world-renowned San Francisco Art Institute, challenged Salazar's statement.

"I have a lot of problems with that. There was nothing illegal going on. That really upset me," Reid said. "I am an artist with HIV. My friend ... who is an artist, just received a grant from Visual AID. I am a caregiver for an artist with AIDS. For them to issue such a disclaimer that is being used in a police investigation to discredit us when many of us were beaten without cause or provocation is really problematic. It makes me question the ethics of the organization, their integrity and their commitment to community," Reid said.

Party organizer Terence Alan also said "It's my understanding that many people have expressed their dismay about the inappropriate and unsupportive statements from Visual AID."

Alan's late lover, artist Randall Pacheco, received assistance from Visual AID as he was dying of AIDS - and Alan's apartment at the 938 Harrison Street site is filled with Pacheco's paintings.

Petrini told the Commission that the Department did not target the event, but acted in response to a call from the Fire Department, and that police have stepped up permit enforcement and crowd control in the South of Market club area over the last several months.

Officers initially called to the party determined that the event was an illegal rave that charged money and served alcohol and lacked the appropriate permits, according to a police report of the action.

"It was not the only club shut down that night, and was only one of many shut down over the last several months," Petrini told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Petrini said that there were 500-800 people at the site, and that police responded initially with just one sergeant and five officers and increased the response incrementally based

on the size of the crowd, following reports from officers at the scene over the computer-aided dispatch system.

Police brass take the charges of misconduct by officers very seriously, Petrini said.

"We really do take the allegations very seriously. If charges involving officers are sustained, we will impose the appropriate discipline," he said.

The American Civil Liberties Union attorney John Crew asked the commission to implement an early warning system it had previously called for, that would identify officers with histories of misconduct complaints.

In response to reports that a woman photographer at the event was brutalized by police and her camera confiscated after police discovered that she was photographing their actions, Crew also reminded the commission that it had asked the Office of Citizens Complaints to develop a policy prohibiting officers from confiscating cameras and video equipment from people who were recording officer conduct.

The policy was developed by the OCC, but the commission has yet to adopt it, Crew said.

Crew also said that the Police Department was already under court order to make sure that people who are charged with public drunkenness know they have the right to a breathalyzer test. Crew said that if police denied requests for breathalyzer tests it is "tantamount to a cover up of false arrest."

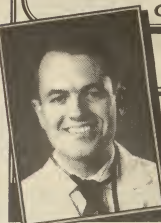
When a historian in the crowd questioned the relationship between the Department and the state Alcohol and Beverage Control agency, and pointed out more than three decades of anti-gay ABC history, Police Commissioner (and *B.A.R.* Political Editor) Wayne Friday interrupted him to say that the entire lesbian and gay community is acutely aware of the history of gay bar raids and police repression of the lesbian and gay community.

"I've been a gay activist in this town for 20 years. You've got to know things are better, despite the problems we still have. Anybody who doesn't believe that has to have their head in the sand," Friday said. "And, there will be no white-wash," he promised.

Reid and others have retained attorney Nanci Clarence of Steel, Clarence and Buckley to represent them in a class action lawsuit and other claims against the city.

An OCC investigation is expected to take at least two months. ▽

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Gay Sperm Donors Wanted

Lesbians seek Gay Men to play "uncle"

OAKLAND - A new sperm bank, Rainbow Flag Health Services, plans to offer a new service to the Lesbian and Gay community: **known donor insemination**. They are recruiting Gay and Bisexual sperm donors for Lesbians and will tell the mother who the biological father is when the child is 3 months old. Under California law donors have no financial obligations nor any custody rights. Knowing the donor can be very important to the child. Some artificially conceived children start asking about their biological fathers as young as 3 and 4.

Being a known donor gives Gay Men, who do not want to raise children, an opportunity to have children in their lives, connects them to Lesbian families, and helps build community. Many Lesbians want donors to play "uncle" to their children. The demand for known donors is much greater than the supply. Rainbow Flag Health Services is recruiting donors of all ethnic backgrounds. If you are healthy, under 55 years old and are interested in being a known donor call for an appointment **(510)763-7737**

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Shanti Seeks Volunteers

Approximately 150 people seeking help from Shanti Project for emotional support and practical assistance are without volunteers to assist them, because the demand for services by people with AIDS far outstrips the volunteers available to provide such help. Shanti will hold a four-and-a-half day training for prospective volunteers next month, on February 3, 4, 5, 11 and 12. After successful completion of the training, volunteers will be matched with Shanti clients.

The volunteer commitment averages six hours a week for about six months of service. Twice-monthly support groups provide volunteers the opportunity to share their experience of working with people living with HIV disease. Longer service commitments are welcomed and encouraged.

For information about volunteering with Shanti contact Thomas Knoble at 864-CARE.

\$30,000 Reward For Missing Gay Worker

The employer and family of Santa Cruz resident



Stephen J. Bolema

Stephen J. Bolema have posted a \$30,000 reward for information leading to the whereabouts of the gay man. Bolema has been missing since October 14, when he was last seen at a sales presentation at a Silicon Valley electronics firm.

Bolema's black Mustang was found off Highway 9 near Santa Cruz the next day. Santa Cruz Sheriffs have no firm leads about the disappearance of the 46-

year-old employee of Ricoh Corporation.

Anyone with information about Bolema's whereabouts should contact attorney Blair Griffiths at (408) 459-8901.

Catholic Charities Open House

Catholic Charities will hold an open house on Thursday, February 2 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. to celebrate the agency's new administrative and social service offices at 814 Mission Street. The agency serves homeless, at-risk, and low income families, people with HIV and AIDS, refugees, and prisoners and their families.

The open house will be an opportunity to meet people who are involved in providing vital services to San Francisco residents. Light refreshments will be served.

To RSVP, or for more information, call Catholic Charities at 442-6871.

Under One Roof

Under One Roof, the Shop For AIDS Relief, yielded nearly \$675,000 for 65 Northern California AIDS groups in 1994. The amount represented an 18.8 percent jump over the \$568,200 raised the year before. Traditional retailers show increases that average four percent a year, said Martin Spector, the store's executive director.

Under One Roof began as a six-week holiday store in 1990, and opened year round in 1992. Since its creation, the store has raised more than \$1.9 million for 65 Northern California AIDS service groups. Underwritten by individual and corporate grants from Miller Brewing, Chevron, The Gap, Wells Fargo Bank, and the employees of Genentech, the store returns 100 percent of retail profits directly to participating groups.

For more information about Under One Roof, visit the shop at 2362 Market Street or call 252-9430.

—by Dennis Conkin

HEALTH NEWS

Good News, Bad News For Bay Area Biotech Firms

Genentech Settles Growth Hormone Suit, XOMA Downsizes

United Press International

A long-standing legal dispute over human growth hormone was settled January 5, with Eli Lilly and Co. agreeing to pay South San Francisco-based biotech giant Genentech Inc. \$145 million.

Under the terms of the agreement, Lilly also will make future payments to Genentech on the sale of drugs created during the legal dispute using the Genentech's patented recombinant technology.

The arrangement provides for an initial payment to Genentech of \$25 million and the remaining amount in 16 quarterly payments of approximately \$7.5 million beginning in March 1995, subject to possible future offsets.

Lilly officials said the payments would have no impact on Lilly's operating results, as the specified payments have been previously reserved in the company's financial statements.

Each company agreed to dismiss its pending legal action against the other for infringement of patented

technology useful in the production of human growth hormone products. Genentech and Lilly have exchanged immunities from lawsuit, licenses, or options to certain patented technology useful in the production of a number of recombinant products.

Recombinant human growth hormone is used to treat children with inadequate amounts of the hormone and who are short in stature, and is considered by AIDS activists to be the best hope for combating wasting syndrome. Both companies produce drugs to treat the disorder, but Genentech isolated the gene causing the defect and had patented it.

XOMA Lays off 84

Across the bay, Berkeley-based XOMA Corp. has announced it will lay off 84 workers and halt work on many long-term projects in an attempt to get its financial house in order.

XOMA Corp. is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of products for the treatment of infectious and immune sys-

tem diseases and other serious disorders.

XOMA officials said they were concentrating their efforts and financial resources on near-term projects, particularly those involving the development of anti-infection products.

The cash-strapped company said it would also retain the necessary pre-clinical, technical development, manufacturing, clinical, and regulatory capabilities to move its leading products through the clinical and regulatory review process.

Other research programs which have longer lead times and require additional funding will be eliminated.

In particular, the company said it was halting further internal development and attempt to license its immunofusion product.

XOMA said it expected the restructuring program to result in a reduction of annual operating expenses of about \$7.5 million, or about 25 percent. The company said it plans to take a one-time restructuring charge of \$2.5 million in the fourth quarter of 1994. ▼

Docs: HIV Infection Destroys 1,000,000,000 T-Cells a Day at First

by Lidia Wasowicz
UPI Science Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — In remarkable findings that shake up current beliefs about AIDS, and could prove pivotal in the search for new therapies, two teams reported January 11 HIV replicates far more quickly than thought.

"The major discovery is that the half life of the circulating virus and the cells producing that virus is a remarkably short two days — not weeks or even months, as previously thought," George Shaw, who headed the study at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, told UPI in an interview.

"The finding is important because it provides new information to a variety of investigators looking into the pathogenesis of acquired immune deficiency syndrome and new drugs and vaccines to stop the disease."

A "half life" represents the time it takes for a virus — in this case HIV — or virus-producing cells to drop to 50 percent of the initial level.

Simultaneously, nearly identical results were obtained by researchers at New York University.

Both teams reported their work in the British journal *Nature*.

The scientists found it took two days for any of three new, experimental drugs to halve the number of viruses and virus-producing cells in an HIV-positive patient, though the respite was short-lived within two to four weeks, as a new and drug-resistant strain of the virus took over.

Dynamic and continuous

The findings show HIV progression as a dynamic process of continuous rounds of new viral infections and rapid cell turnover — a scenario dramatically different from the conventional picture of a pool of chronically or latently infected cells activated after a long period of dormancy.

"What underlies HIV pathogenesis is not a slow process of viral production but just the opposite, a dynamic and rapid competition of virus production on the one hand and cell infection and destruction on the other," Shaw said.

"It's like a road race, where one competitor is constantly trying to stay ahead of the other. Under the seemingly classic quiet on the surface of HIV, drives a turbulent process of production — and destruction — of a billion viruses and a billion immune cells a day."

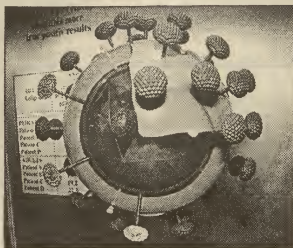
Thus, the virus not so much depresses the immune system as exhausts it by producing far more viral material than it can destroy, the scientists said.

"The picture that emerges is of a titanic struggle between the virus and the immune system," said Simon Wain-Hobson at the Institut Pasteur in Paris.

"That billions of virions and infected cells can be destroyed every day vividly illustrates the very hostile environment created by the immune system — the meanest of streets are nothing by comparison."

In an accompanying News and Views article, Wain-Hobson wrote, "HIV counters by massive force of numbers."

"So long as a few progeny survive to



A model of the HIV at the Berlin International AIDS Conference.

continue replication and transmission, from the point of view of the virus, that is a success story despite the billions destroyed. That the surface is, for many years, relatively calm is a tribute to the heroic efforts of the immune system," he said, referring to the lengthy period in many cases between infection and onset of symptoms.

With so much virus and so many infected cells around, the recent hypotheses that HIV is not the primary culprit in AIDS "can definitely be sidelined," Wain-Hobson said.

"The new analyses are most welcome because they clarify the picture considerably. They show that HIV is behaving more and more like a virus, without frills or special effects," he said. "It is unique and subtle, but a virus nonetheless."

Shaw and his team studied 22 patients given three new drugs that block the activity of two viral enzymes required for

viral replication.

One, nevirapine or NVP, inhibits reverse transcriptase, which the virus needs to copy its RNA genome into DNA. The others, ABT-538 and L735,524, inhibit the protein-cleaving enzyme the virus uses in the manufacture of protein coats for new virus particles.

In the New York study, David Ho of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center at the NYU School of Medicine and his team got similar results from trials of ABT-538 on 20 patients. They showed how the continuous production of large amounts of infective viruses drives the rapid turnover of the immune system's susceptible T-cells.

The findings have implications for researchers testing new AIDS drugs and vaccines, who now wait up to 12 months to determine the effectiveness of a treatment. Since the rate of viral replication is faster than thought, scientists should be able to cut that time down to as little as four weeks, the researchers said.

By closely monitoring HIV, doctors may be able to predict how and when the virus will mutate in response to anti-viral drugs. Shaw's study shows it only takes two to four weeks for HIV to develop drug resistance.

"The new findings will help clinicians decide when to begin early therapy with HIV-infected patients," Shaw said. "This information will give physicians a more rational basis for timing the initiation of antiretroviral therapy."

The findings point to a combination drug therapy as holding the greatest promise for treating AIDS. ▼

Designer Antibodies May Stop Some HIV Infection

Needle Sticks, Maternal Transmission Probable Targets

by Dan Medynski

A group of researchers at the Scripps Institute in La Jolla, California have engineered an antibody in the laboratory that is highly effective at blocking HIV infection. The antibody was shown to be completely effective at blocking infection by 12 of 16 HIV variants isolated from infected people. The HIV variants were from two rather different HIV strains, HIV IIIB and MN, which account for most HIV infections in the U.S.

The antibody is directed against a region of the viral coat protein, gp120 that is important for fusion with the T-cell marker, CD4; gp120/CD4 fusion is necessary for entry into T-cells.

The laboratory breakthrough contrasts disturbing reports by vaccine research groups at the 10th International AIDS Conference in Japan last summer, that antibodies produced against vaccines constructed from a particular variant of HIV were effective only against that one variant but no others. The bad news left the hope for an AIDS vaccine in shambles.

In contrast, the observation made by the Scripps research team, led by Steven Burton and Carlos Barbas, and published in the November 11, 1994 issue of *Science* magazine, raises the hope of some scientists that

developing a single vaccine effective against many variants of HIV is still possible.

Infusion of the anti-gp120 antibody engineered in the Scripps laboratory into people already infected by HIV is unlikely to subdue the course of AIDS in these individuals, since T-cells, not antibodies, are required to destroy HIV infected T-cells. However, passive infusion of the antibodies into a person immediately after an accidental needle stick may be effective in preventing HIV infection because the virus particles can be removed directly from the blood before T-cell infection occurs. Passive immunotherapy may also be effective in preventing vertical transmission of HIV from mother to infant if used immediately after birth. Passive immunotherapy has been shown to be effective in preventing HIV-1 infection of chimpanzees.

Burton, Barbas, and other researchers at the Scripps Research Institute engineered the anti-HIV antibody with exceptional neutralizing ability, using a laboratory technique known as phage display. Phage display is a method designed to accelerate laboratory molecular evolution, that can be used to broaden the strain specificity of a natural antibody produced against HIV by asymptomatic people. ▼

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OBITUARIES

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization - and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

John Charles Roy January 11, 1995

John Charles Roy died peacefully January 11 at Sacred Heart Hospital in



Eugene, Oregon, due to the complications of AIDS. Johnny was a deeply loving and caring individual with an extraordinary sense of humor.

Everyone who knew Johnny will always remember what a wonderful person he was. He was a very talented man who could do just about anything. He had a unique flair with floral design and arrangements. While attending California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, he studied interior design and architecture, and excelled in displaying his ability in various mediums.

Of the Episcopal faith Johnny was a devoted and active member of his church for many years. Surrounded by family and friends, he fought a courageous battle against AIDS and will be missed, especially by those who appreciated his warmth and charm. He is survived by his loving sister, Crystal Roy, and a large extended family.

A service for Johnny will be held Saturday, January 21, at 3 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal at Gough and Bush streets, with a celebration of his life to follow at the home of Sam Segrove and Gene Batruk (614 Castro Street, Apt. 1, SF). ▼

Michael Allen Nettle July 18, 1967 - Dec. 31, 1994

Gone but not lost. Michael passed on to the promised land in peace with love. Brian was at his side. With wings as beautiful as his soft hair, may he circle the heavens looking down with those starry blue, blue eyes forever.



Your family, friends and I miss you sorely, I love you. Michael.

Until we meet again - William Brian Morris. Thanks for everything.

A memorial service and quilt organization party will be held. Please call Brian at 861-8129 for more information. Any donations in Michael's name may be made to Project Inform. God bless. ▼

Michael Edward Rice Sept. 3, 1954 - Jan. 11, 1995

Michael passed away at Laguna Honda Hospital in the company of his lover, Jorge; his lifetime friend, Roger; and his friend of many years, David. He fought a long and valiant battle against HIV.

After being diagnosed with full-blown AIDS, Michael accepted his illness, not as a reason to die but as an opportunity to live his life to the fullest. He made very positive lifestyle changes. With very strong will power and determination, he quit all of his negative habits and took up bodybuilding and other positive endeavors.

After retiring from a successful typesetting career, he and Jorge enjoyed their extensive travels in Europe and the Middle East.

Michael will be missed by his many brothers and sisters as well as by all of his friends. May his soul rest in peace. ▼



Andre Ward

Dec. 23, 1951 - Jan. 9, 1995

After a long struggle with AIDS, Andre passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family and friends.



Andre was a creative, intelligent man filled with honesty, integrity and pride. He was a great listener and made all his friends feel special. He loved animals, nature and children.

Andre was raised in Los Angeles and lived in San Francisco since the mid-70s. He had his own real estate appraisal business for the past several years.

Andre will be greatly missed by all of us: Tina, Alex, Bryan, Kris, Doug, Sandy, Malia, Alec, Barry, Lila, Sandra, Kyra, Stephanie, Mary, Ron, Jack, Laurie, Phil and his cat Storm.

Andre will be remembered for his beautiful smile, his sense of humor and his generous heart. Donations in Andre's name can be made to Project Open Hand. ▼

Johnie A. Garcia

April 24, 1947 - Jan. 11, 1995

Johnie moved to San Francisco from his native Los Angeles in 1975.

After a long, courageous fight with AIDS, Johnie passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family and his leather daddy, Alan Selby.



Johnie was a very special man, who was loved by so many people and who cared

very deeply about the community. He helped get the M.H.R. AIDS Support Group established and worked tirelessly for them until very recently. He also was an intake volunteer for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Johnie was a shy man who never sought the limelight, but just wanted to be in the background and work to help others in every way he could. He did this with a dedication that would make any daddy proud. He wanted to be known as Alan Selby's boy. He was the most thoughtful, kindest man that anyone could ever wish for; he will be greatly missed.

There will be a celebration of Johnie's life on the SF-Eagle patio, which was his last wish, on Saturday, January 21, 7-9 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Marty's Place, 1165 Treat Avenue, SF, CA 94110.

Rest peacefully, Johnie. I will love you and hold your memory in my heart forever. All my love, Daddy Alan ▼

Memorial Service
**Celebration of Life
 for Irv Silverman**
 California Miracle Center
 2269 Market St.
 2 p.m. Sat., Jan. 21, 1995
 Information: Ted, 928-4114

Thomas E. Bell

June 28, 1955 - Jan. 5, 1995

Tom succumbed to AIDS complications at Hillhaven Pine Towers Phoenix Center in San Francisco. He was born in Chicago, Ill., and attended Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Ill.



Tom is survived by his father and stepmother, Charles and Joyce Bell; his mother and stepfather, Joyce and Lee McDonald; his brother, Chuck Bell; his stepister and her husband, Meredith and Fred Palmer; his grandmother, Ada Mays; and many caring friends.

Tom was a member of the board of directors of the San Francisco Church of Religious Science and was associated with Saks Fifth Avenue for 13 years, six in Dallas and seven in San Francisco.

A memorial service will be held February 11 at The San Francisco Church of Religious Science. In lieu of flowers memorial donations in his name may be made to any of the following: San Francisco Church of Religious Science, 280 Claremont Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94127 (415) 731-3887; or San Francisco AIDS Foundation, P.O. Box 426182, San Francisco, CA 94142 (415) 864-5855; or The AIDS Ministry of Illinois, 68 North Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60431 (815) 723-1506. ▼

Ron Washburn

Nov. 30, 1951 - Jan. 13, 1995

A new guardian angel, with a particular cobalt-blue hue, has joined the heavenly kingdom. Ron died about noon on Friday, January 13, at Mt. Zion Hospital. He fought a courageous battle against HIV/AIDS for many years through his spiritual commitment to life. He also fought HIV/AIDS



by playing a major role in mobilizing the Episcopal Church to make a commitment to provide education, caregiving and advocacy in the midst of the crisis. In addition, he was a major contributor to the development and opening of the Richard M. Cohen Residence for homeless PWAs.

Ron is survived by his dog, Peat, cat, Queenie; life partner of 13 years, Tom Tull; parents, Mary and Calvin Washburn; and brothers, Larry and Timothy. He leaves behind a special "family of choice" that he and Tom have become part of here in San Francisco, as well as many other relatives and friends.

A celebration of Ron's life will be held at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr., SF on Saturday, January 21, at 11 a.m. No flowers please. Contributions preferred to St. Aidan's Church, P.O. Box 31526, SF, CA 94131 or Dolores Street Community Services, 938 Valencia St., SF, CA 94110. ▼

NIH Panel Assesses Blood Tests

by Lisa Seachrist
UPI Science Writer

BETHESDA, MARYLAND — A common blood screening test introduced to protect transfusion recipients from contracting hepatitis has outlived its usefulness and should be eliminated from standard screenings of donated blood, a National Institutes of Health consensus panel recommended Wednesday, January 11.

The test, designed in the mid-1980s to screen out persons who were likely infected with active non-A, non-B (NANB) hepatitis, has been supplanted by a new hepatitis C virus (HCV) test, the panel said. The panel also developed recommendations for dealing with emerging disease that blood banks and hospitals have no means to detect.

"While our recommendations will not be binding, we hope that they will be implemented by federal agencies and blood banks around the country," said Dr. E. Shannon Cooper of the Ochsner Transplant Center in New Orleans.

The panel recommended that the alanine aminotransferase (ALT) test be removed from standard screening because it does not actively test for an infectious state, but tests for liver damage that could result from a range of causes, including hepatitis, obesity and alcohol consumption.

The test came into vogue in the 1980s, when it became apparent that forms of hepatitis other than the traditional A and B were causing infections. However, in the early 1990s, a test for the hepatitis C virus became available, and researcher subsequently proved that hepatitis C virus was responsible for more than 90 percent of all transfusion-associated hepatitis.

"Because ALT is not a predictor of hepati-

tis C infection, it is not a good marker for deferring donors," said panel member Dr. Theresa Wright of the University of California, San Francisco. "It is estimated that 200,000 units were deferred last year, and much of that was inappropriate."

The panel also decided to recommend that the hepatitis B core antibody [anti-HBc] test and the test for syphilis continue to be part of blood bank screening procedures.

The anti-HBc, like the ALT test, was introduced in the mid-1980s to find NANB infections. The panel decided the anti-HBc test provided benefit, however, because the test helps reduce the risk of hepatitis B infections and can identify a small number of donors whose blood is infectious for HIV, but who do not yet test positive for HIV.

However, panel chairperson Dr. Jane F. Desforges of the New England Medical Center in Boston pointed out, "the manufacturers need to improve the false positive rates of this test."

"False positive tests increase the cost to blood banks and to donors, while causing anxiety for donors," said Cooper.

Many suspected that the syphilis test had become pointless because transfusion-related syphilis was so rare. Even so, the panel decided to keep the test because no good data existed about whether that low rate was simply the result of good screening or because the organism died during storage.

The panel pointed to the need for cooperation between public health officials and the transfusion medicine community to prevent emerging infections — like AIDS in the early 1980s — from running rampant through the blood supply.

Over 8 million units of blood are donated every year in the United States. ▼

Report: HIV Spreads Fastest In First 60 Days

United Press International

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN — People infected with HIV are most contagious 60 days after contracting the disease, during the period when tests are least likely to detect the virus, University of Michigan researchers reported Friday, January 6.

Researchers said their study found that a person who is HIV-positive can transmit the disease in three out of ten sexual encounters during the two months after becoming infected.

The contagion rate declines rapidly after the first 60 days, bottoming out at about three infections per 1,000 sexual encounters.

The findings were based on computer analyses of previous studies in Chicago and San Francisco, which looked at HIV antibodies in blood, AIDS testing, and the spread of the disease in major cities.

Previous studies indicated HIV is least detectable when testing is done four to six weeks after it's been contracted.

"This is the message for the person in the street: Don't rely on simple tests to measure if a person is contagious," Carl Simon, UM economics and public policy professor, told the *Detroit Free Press*.

"There is a very narrow time period of high contagiousness, less than two months, and that's before you can usually know you have HIV," Simon said.

After the disease progresses to AIDS, the infection rate climbs again.

Researchers said their study raises questions about whether contagiousness should be factored into the search for an AIDS vaccine. ▼

OBITUARIES

Richard Donnelly

Jan. 12, 1937 — Jan. 2, 1995

Richard died of AIDS-related illnesses on January 2 at Kaiser Hospital in Oakland. He was a native of Marysville, California, and had lived in Berkeley and San Leandro for the past 25 years. Richard is survived by his domestic partner, Robert Sharp; his sister, Kathleen Hutchison of Arizona; and his brother, Ray Donnelly of Missouri.

Richard's friends are invited to a celebration of life to be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28, at the First United Methodist Church, 1600 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro. ▼

Kenneth L. Winn

Oct. 11, 1949 — Nov. 19, 1994



I am deeply honored that our paths crossed on this plane. We will meet again on many, many more. Love and peace go with you. Love always, Richard. ▼

Stephen Romero Jr.

Jan. 28, 1965 — Jan. 12, 1995

Light give me your energy/Return my soul to wholeness and make my body again.

Compassion, compassion, compassion. Hilarious, hilarious, hilarious.

Artist, Buddhist, handyman, word processor. Stephen leaves behind his father, Steve Romero; his siblings, including his sisters Betsy

and Stephanie and stepbrother Barney; as well as many nieces and nephews. His friends include Juan, Voltaire, Mark, Tom, R.B., Joy, Steve, Terry, Lea and many more.

Thank you, Dr. Underwood. You went beyond duty. And thanks to Barbara, his nurse.

A memorial tea party will take place on Saturday, January 28, at 5 p.m. Call Juan at 995-4962 for details.

Life is something. We are here to wash our brothers clean. And that's the way you love your brothers. ▼

Kevin Marc Larrabee

Dec. 6, 1951 — Jan. 12, 1995

Kevin died peacefully at Mt. Zion Hospital at 3:35 a.m. on January 12. He was sent on his journey "Home" by his loving partner, Larry Bittner.

Kevin was born in Iowa and grew up in Southern California. His 18-year career with Pacific Bell was a source of pride and joy to him.

Kevin was a talented musician; he played the piano, flute and oboe, and loved gospel music, opera and plays/musicals.

In addition to his partner, Kevin is survived by his mother, Margaret; three older brothers; many aunts, uncles and cousins; and his "extended family," including among others too numerous to mention, Kathy, Beth and Jessica, Eric, Paul, John, David, Joyce, Freddie, Larry C. and Blayne and Joe. A memorial service will be held at Kevin's church, MCC/SF, 150 Eureka Street, January 21, 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions to the MCC AIDS/HIV Ministry will be appreciated.

"In a world with so few heroes, you showed the universe the way — the way to truth and bravery, each ... each and every day ... R.I.P. dear Kevin. ▼

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Getting Needled

by Michael C. Botkin

For the past couple of years, I've been following the research on Chinese medicine and AIDS, but I never tried it personally until last month. I'm a hardcore skeptic and was somewhat put off by the system's flowery metaphors, but gradually I was won over by the continuing stream of positive research and glowing testimonials about its efficacy. My early experience with acupuncture has reinforced the optimism: I don't know how it does what it does, but it definitely does something.

You can't say this about most "alternative" treatments for HIV. Usually it's impossible to tell if they're doing anything at all. Their protagonists (more often than not they're also the people selling the nostrum) argue that simply not getting sick is proof of this or that treatment's effectiveness. You take them on faith, as it were.

Before the existence of the HIV test and the first rudimentary drugs for the virus (i.e., AZT), there were few clear treatment standards and no clear way to sort out the promising but unproved approaches from the worthless scams. When the nucleoside analogs ("nukes") established a minimum baseline for effective therapy — and a fairly low one at that — most of the scams fizzled out. Chinese medicine, in contrast, has continued to grow steadily in popu-

larity among HIVers for a number of reasons.

First and foremost is that the AZT baseline mentioned above isn't such a difficult standard to match. When Traditional Chinese Medicine (henceforth TCM) has to compete against penicillin, it doesn't do so well, but AZT and the other nukes are easier marks to beat.

In fact, when you exclude illnesses that can be resolved by either antibiotics or surgery (which is, to be fair, a majority

Commentary

of ailments), TCM does about as well as Western medicine. And it does it with fewer side effects. HIVers struggling to manage the toxic impact of their multitudinous AIDS drugs often turn to TCM in a quest for therapies that won't destroy their liver.

Another popular use of TCM is to treat the side effects of Western treatments, for example, using acupuncture to relieve the peripheral neuropathy caused by many of the nukes. TCM practitioners have mixed feelings about this approach, which relegates them to the second string as a kind of cleanup crew undoing the damage caused by Western techniques.

Finally, many PWAs turn to TCM only after they've exhausted the Western treatment options for their particular problem. This is how I finally came



Photo: Judi Parks

Abigail Surasky, clinical supervisor at Quan Yin, checks on a couple of acupuncture patients.

to get needled, after years of watching from the sidelines.

Avoiding the knife

In my case it was persistent, treatment-resistant sinusitis that brought me around. Like many, if not most, PWAs, I have an ongoing sinus infection. This is usually treated with antibiotics, but I'm already on five broad-range antibiotics and yet the sinusitis thrives. The addition of a powerful decongestant and a mucus-thinning agent relieved some of the congestion — enough to check the fevers and night sweats — but failed to resolve the infection or clear my sinuses to the point where I could hear out of my right ear.

A little deafness isn't such a horrible thing, especially com-

pared to pneumonias and brain tumors, but I dislike harboring ongoing infections. The next step in treatment, according to my Ear-Nose-Throat specialist, was to physically drain the blocked sinuses by a simple Roto-Rooter-like surgical procedure. But I shy away from surgery if at all possible, and in this case it would be a purely temporary solution and probably have to be repeated. I decided to give TCM a try before submitting to the knife.

I went to Quan Yin, largely because they're located across the hall from the Healing Alternatives Foundation, the local "Buyer's Club" where I get a number of herbs and food supplements. It's hard not to notice the pungent aroma of moxibustion that emanates from QY, a scent somewhat similar to marijuana.

I was surprised and delighted to discover that MediCal pays for acupuncture up to four times a month. They won't, alas, pay for the Chinese herbs, but I was referred to the AIDS Emergency Fund, who will. Given the general non-toxicity of TCM and the fact that it was, in my case, virtually free, what did I have to lose? They read my pulses, checked my tongue (first lesson for TCM users — don't suck on purple hard candies on your way to an appointment), and stuck me full of pins.

My body tells me ...

At first I was pretty cool to the notion of acupuncture because I couldn't see how it works. The herbal formulas presumably work the same way Western drugs do, but why should sticking needles all over do anything at all?

However, I kept hearing consistently positive feedback about it from Western medical health care workers I knew who had observed TCM in action. They all expressed considerable doubts that Chinese herbs did anything at all but conceded, some grudgingly, that acupuncture definitely had an impact. After two sessions, I agreed with them.

About ten minutes after getting needled, I — and most other acupunctees that I've talked with — drift off into a very pleasant alpha-wave state. At any given moment half of the folks getting needled at QY (and a majority of them appear to be HIVers) are snoring gently on their couches. This occurs too consistently and dramatically to be a mere placebo effect. I can see why acupuncture has such a good record in treating drug addiction; it must perform won-

ders at helping people deal with the agony of withdrawal.

Although my sinusitis hasn't resolved itself yet, I have gotten swift and significant relief for my peripheral neuropathy. It's not clear if the herbs are doing anything, but classical purists of TCM would put the blame for that on the preparations QY uses, which pack the herbs in a traditional pill format instead of giving the patient a large bundle of leaves, twigs and goddess-knows-what to boil into a tea.

The latter method is presumably more effective, but the results are too gross for most Westerners to tolerate. QY practices what I call East-West medicine, based on TCM but incorporating some Western elements, like standardized formulas and pills. The hardcore traditionalists prefer to tailor their prescriptions to each individual.

A standard treatment takes about 40 minutes. The acupuncturist places the needles, and then assistants come by to administer the moxibustion, which is heating the pins with an herbal, incense-like substance. When you're finished the assistants remove the pins, carefully counting to make sure they've got them all.

I still don't know why it does what it does. One popular, simplistic reason offered is that the needles trigger the release of endorphins, naturally occurring pain-killing hormones. This simply doesn't square with most of the existing research on endorphins, which are rarely so easily mobilized and which, in any event, wouldn't stay active long enough to produce the effect I experienced.

On the other hand, I really don't know how most Western meds work, beyond the most simplistic and basic mechanics. Everyone knows that antibiotics kill germs, but can you explain how or why they do it, or why they only kill "bad" germs and not "good" ones? (Actually, they tend to kill both, thus their toxic side effects.)

All I know at this point is that it makes me feel good. I'm skeptical about what salespeople say, cautious about inconclusive research, but never doubt what my body tells me. It told me in no uncertain terms that rifabutin was killing me, that too much D4T would turn me into an energetic maniac with no feelings in my hands or feet, and that marijuana is the best treatment for nausea. And it tells me that acupuncture makes it happy. So, at least as long as MediCal pays for it, I'll be getting needled weekly. ▼



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Finally: Good News on the AIDS Front

by Martin Delaney
and Jeff Getty
ACT UP/Golden Gate
Writers' Pool

The coming year shows several signs of ending the recent good news drought for people with AIDS. This new hope does not come from the political arena, which looks bleak from almost any angle. Nor does it come from better management of the government's AIDS research. Instead, it came from a convergence of good luck, fortuitous timing, and activists' hard work.

In the last six months alone, several advances have combined to improve the potential quality and length of life for PWAs. One of the clearest examples was the recent data showing that the recombinant human growth hormone makes a profound difference for people with AIDS-related wasting - producing not just fatty weight gain, but a lasting return of lean body mass. Similarly, people with CMV retinitis now have, for the first time, two or three new and simpler ways for treating this sight-threatening infection. New evidence shows that ocular implants, small time-release Gancyclovir pellets surgically implanted in the eye, appear to offer superior protection against advancing retinitis. A single pellet lasts up to eight months. Full FDA approval of this procedure is expected by mid-year. Compare implants to twice-daily IV infusions and it's easy to see why PWAs see this as a real advance. Similarly, the FDA has just approved oral Gancyclovir tablets for CMV retinitis maintenance therapy. Although not a perfect solution, the oral drug seems to offer nearly the same benefit as the older IV treatment. Perhaps of even greater importance is that the oral drug may soon be available as a preventative against CMV in the first place.

Advances on the antiviral front are coming from two directions: first, there is now increasingly clear evidence that combining existing drugs can produce far better results than single drug therapy. The key seems to be picking the right combination, as was demonstrated by two European studies that combined AZT with 3TC. While neither drug is very effective on its own, the combination seems to counteract the trend toward drug resistance more powerfully than previous combinations. Consequently, the new data shows high levels of sustained viral suppression holding strong after a full year, with the benefit seeming to be equally true for people just beginning therapy and for those who used up their time on AZT long ago.

The second front of hope in slowing viral reproduction comes from the newer protease inhibitor drug. Very recent data released from Abbott Laboratories regarding

their drug ABT-538 show some of the most dramatic antiviral activity yet seen in a clinical study. Study participants averaged a two log drop in viral level (a 100-fold reduction), while at least one patient group protocol also had an average 300-400 point increase in CD4 levels. We haven't seen this good an increase this large any past study; it's as good as the "best case" data ever seen. To be sure, this data covers only a six week protocol, so the dreaded viral resistance problem may yet lie ahead, but so too does the opportunity to use the drug in rational combinations. Large ABT-538 studies should begin this year in the US. Activists are hearing that Abbott may attempt accelerated approval this summer, though this is far from certain.

Other protease drugs, like Roche's saquinovir and Merck's L-773-524, are already in wide scale testing, while new compounds from Agouron, Vertex, Upjohn, Kyoto and several others are just now beginning human testing cycles. No matter what the fate of any individual drug, there are enough alternatives to safely predict that important improvements in antiviral therapy lie immediately ahead.

Much of this movement toward more rational (and consequently more effective) use of therapies is being driven by the new blood tests that measure HIV levels more accurately than before. These tests - either qualitative PCR or branched DNA - will help determine (a) when it's time to begin using a drug; (b) whether or not that drug or combination is working, once applied; and (c) when it's time to switch to something else. Previously, answering these questions has been mostly guesswork, so it's no surprise that treatment was such a hit-and-miss proposition. But not so any more.

Immune system restorative therapies are still only slowly moving ahead, mostly because less time and money have gone into them so far. Project Inform's Immune Reconstitution Think Tank, called by scientists "the crazy-glue that binds together the work on immune-based therapies internationally," has resolved a major long term grant to further accelerate work in this area. And despite other possible weaknesses, the new director of the Office of AIDS Research in Washington has at least a personal investment in this field. High-risk/high-potential immune reconstitution protocols are inching their way toward approval at UCSF, Duke University, University of Wisconsin, and the University of Washington.

Gene therapies, which will unlock the door to new treatments inside the cell, should bear fruit in the next 12 months. Scientists are now building virus delivery systems that will take drugs

and/or interrupting genetic material directly into HIV-infected cells. These altered virus particles will hopefully not be harmful in themselves, as some will be programmed not to replicate and all others are being designed to avoid damaging the human host. They will simply invade human cells, bringing along a lethal snack for HIV. Activists have heard that some of these tests are set to start in six patients at the University of San Diego. Another program underway, from the biotech company Viagene, has already inserted new genes into dozens of human volunteers and is widening the program with a phase II study early this year.

Along with advances in gene therapy, there is new understanding about the basic nature of HIV and the destruction it causes. Scientists are slowly mapping the genes needed for the virus to replicate. They have discovered that there is more than one gene area now thought to be responsible for transcription. In other words, they are finding out some of the back-up systems the virus uses to evade antiviral drugs. Science is now confirming that large amounts of virus are directly responsible for disease progression and that early aggressive intervention is probably called for. Also, scientists are rapidly finding out how the virus causes immune system cells to die off as well as the shifting functionality of HIV-infected CD4 and CD8 cell lines. Recent endocrine research (which brought us growth hormone) is beginning to unfold many mysteries about weight loss and wasting that were unknown just two years ago.

Alongside these and similar advances has been a quiet resurgence in AIDS activism. While the press trumpets nonsense like "ACT-UP is dead" and "Why has AIDS activism disappeared?" activists are producing a steady stream of high quality work. Most long term players like ACT UP/Golden Gate, Project Inform, TAG, ACT UP/New York have remained committed, while many new players such as APLA, SFAF, and AmFAR are now joining the cause for better AIDS therapies faster. In short, people are getting involved again, and there is a renewed feeling of unity (following an in-house brawl last year over the fate of accelerated approval of new treatments). A unified national activist coalition recently helped accelerate access to oral growth hormone; the same coalition is reforming to address quick access to the protease inhibitors, with the goal of making the best protease drugs available to PWAs by midsummer.

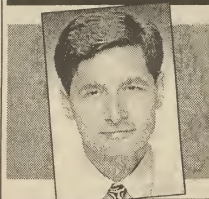
There may be fewer street demonstrations, but activist input is greater than ever. Activists today are aggressively involved in virtually every decision made and

every drug development strategy underway. No, the government isn't doing a better job, nor are the drug companies any less interested in profits. But the aggressive work of well-informed activists is doing more today than ever to keep progress and hope alive. Still, the work is daunting and many more activists are needed in the bat-

tle to make HIV disease a non-fatal condition. ▼

■ **ACT UP! FIGHT BACK! FIGHT AIDS! ACT UP GOLDEN GATE** meets every Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. at Mobilization Against AIDS, located at 584B Castro Street in San Francisco. For more information, phone (415) 252-9200.

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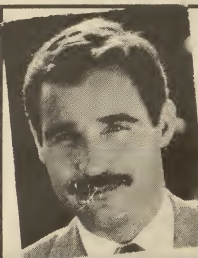


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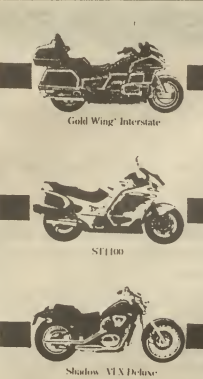
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THIS WEEK IN GAY HISTORY

Vita and the Helpless Woolf

by Mary Ann Swissler

Over a half a century after her death, the storytelling gifts of Virginia Woolf continue to amaze, delight, and inspire. She would have turned 113 this week, on January 25.

About this time in 1928, the woman with the haunted, elliptical eyes was completing the first draft of her sixth novel, *Orlando*, at Long Barn in England. Woolf already commanded considerable respect — for *Mrs. Dalloway* and *To the Lighthouse*, among others — and she showed she was in top form with *Orlando*, hailed upon its publication as a long, elaborate love letter.

She was also, this 46th birthday weekend, fighting off the flu — and in love. While at Long Barn with her husband Leonard, whom she married at age 30 for a number of complex reasons, she wrote her lover, Vita Sackville-West. In a letter dated January 22, Woolf wrote to the woman for whom she shared a special fondness: "I've been thinking of you all the time, dear Honey. ... This is only by way of goodnight, and to say that should you ever want to see me, I am your entirely devoted but helpless and useless creature."

Although she was to write in a 1930 letter "It is true that I only want to show off to women. Women alone stir my

imagination," the tortured affairs in Woolf's novels made her the queen of *unrequited* desire. The presentation of female pairings was often done through code or disguises.

Literary scholars speculate that the reason Woolf created a subterranean world for her fictional lesbian characters had more to do with the English obscenity laws of the time than the projection of her own pathology: the same year she enjoyed the publication of *Orlando*, the trial over Radclyffe Hall's openly lesbian novel *The Well of Loneliness* was underway in England. For a while, Woolf planned to testify on her behalf.

Hands across the sea

Also this week in 1928, as Woolf was toiling away on *Orlando* at Long Barn, actress Natacha Rambova was turning 31 in the USA — and perfecting the art of the gay marriage, Hollywood-style. Rambova was a darling of the parlors where Los Angeles lesbians could and did comfortably visit at the time, even as she was married to Rudolph Valentino, the idol of literally millions of American women (and men).

Eventually Rambova — the former Winifred Shaunnessy of Salt Lake City — settled into one of those distinctly Tinseltown cottage industries, Egyptology, and even published a book on the subject through Princeton University Press. ▼



Vita Sackville-West

NATIONAL NEWS

The State of Oregon's OCA Just Won't Go Away!

by David Batterson

PORTLAND, OREGON — Although voters in Oregon have twice defeated anti-gay and lesbian initiatives promoted by the right wing Oregon Citizens Alliance (OCA), the leader of the group has started a petition drive to put a third such measure on the 1996 ballot.

The OCA's Ballot Measure 13 was defeated by 51 to 49 percent last November, and the similar Ballot Measure 9 was rejected by a 57-43 margin in 1992. OCA Chairman Lon Mabon thinks that the third measure has a good chance of passing. With the conservative tide sweeping the U.S., he may be right.

The OCA is supported by other right wing individuals and groups, including Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition. The anti-OCA campaign has been supported by Portland businesses such as US Bank, US WEST, Portland General Electric (PGE), and Nike. Film director Gus Van Sant has also contributed money and held fundraisers to fight the OCA.

Ken Harrison, chairman of PGE, said in an August 1994 letter to all employees that "I cannot be supportive of any measure that uses differences as a basis for denying fundamental human rights. Further, I am skeptical of the organization that is trying falsely to clothe this measure in the sheep's clothing of 'no special rights.' I do not believe in special rights or 'protected status'; neither do I believe in legalized license for discrimination."

During the fall campaign, No on 13 Campaign director Julie Davis (an open lesbian) said that the issue is "about how we relate to one another. Do we have the ability to talk about our differences and deal with them one on one, or do we become a state that cannot tolerate the fact that as individuals we may have differences in what we believe and how we live our lives?"

Mabon's slant was that his ballot measure "won't recognize homosexuality as a minority, won't allow government to promote it or spend public money on it, and won't let it be taught to our children. Other than that, there's no limitation and no restriction."

The OCA has been sued a number of times over the years. In October 1992, a jury in Portland awarded a judgment of \$31,000 to lesbian photojournalist Catherine Stauffer, as damages for civil battery committed by OCA staffer Scott Lively. Stauffer's gay attorney, Bradley Woodworth, has been unable to collect the judgment from the OCA, as the organization has continually moved funds back and

forth among its five entities: the OCA Educational Foundation, No Special Rights Political Action Committee (PAC), OCA PAC, Human Rights League PAC, and the Oregon Christian Coalition.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Oregon has been in the forefront of the battle against the OCA, and has been able to get court injunctions against OCA measures that were passed in individual Oregon cities and counties.

Following the passage of those measures in 1993, the Oregon Legislature passed HB 3500, which has prohibited municipalities and county governments from enacting or enforcing measures that single out individuals based on sexual orientation.

In an interview conducted by this reporter last year, ACLU lead attorney Charles Hinkle said Mabon "is like other demagogues from other times and places, a person who latches onto popular slogans and prejudices and exploits them, and fosters ignorance and misunderstanding rather than the truth."

Hinkle added that the OCA leadership knows that "many of the things they say about gays and lesbians are false. They know the nondiscrimination laws do not protect gay and lesbian persons. I think that's a very strong indication that their real effort here is to build their own power base."

Last year a Portland-area public school teacher was cleared of what the OCA termed "promoting homosexuality," after an investigation by a Portland law firm. The report showed that parents had approved of their sons attending the off-campus workshop called "A New Attitude: Promoting Health Behaviors in a High Risk Society."

The misunderstanding about teacher Larry Smith arose from Smith's statement to eighth-grade boys that "if a person has two homosexual experiences, it does not necessarily mean that he or she is gay."

Hinkle said that the OCA and its campaign of hatred had been beneficial in one respect: "They've brought a lot more gays and lesbians into the political process. Certainly the gay/lesbian movement is much more visible than it was ten years ago, and partly we have the OCA to thank for that." ▼



Lon Mabon



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HEALTH AND COMMUNITY

ACT UP San Francisco: determined to end the AIDS crisis thru direct action. Meets first & third Thursday every month, 7pm, 3rd floor, Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St. Write PO Box 14844, SF 94114 or call 677-7988.

AIDS Community Research Consortium conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Health Project: Individual psychotherapy services for people with HIV. No fee. Call for intake appt. 476-3902.

The Alternative Family Project: low-fee family counseling service available for lesbian, gay and bisexual families. Call 550-2621.

Bay Positives: Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Bereavement Groups for family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS, provided by Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. Info: 750-4404.

Clinical Research Unit at UCSF seeks participants in a study involving AZT. Subjects must be HIV+, 18 yrs.+, CD4 count between 300-500. Pays \$80. Call 476-5914.

Coming out support group for men meets Tues., 6pm at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. Men of all ages welcome, no fee. Facilitated by Kirk Hinman, PhD. Info: 626-7000.

Continuum HIV Day Services: an adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Call 241-5500.

Dealing With Violent Behavior self-defense workshop. Sun., Jan. 22, 12-6pm. \$50 advance, \$60 door. Academy of Tae Kwon Do, 988 Oak St. 864-4827.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services: Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs. 572-9702.

FABRIC, a support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues., 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-3939, x318/ x504.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic: Testing & treatment by &

for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7 pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun., 5-7 pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

Healing Alternatives Foundation maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

Healing Circle: Begun as an HIV support group, now a space of healing & growth for all men & women. Meets every Thurs. at The San Francisco Center for Living, 4054 18th St. 7-9 pm. 252-1666.

HIV/AIDS Services at Operation Concern: Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV- men, men with AIDS/ARC, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St.

Immune Enhancement Project treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center: Primary health care for women by women, with emphasis on the health care needs of lesbians. Services include general medical care, gynecology, acupuncture, lesbian parenting, AIDS counseling & safe sex info (safe sex kits for women available). 1748 Market St near Valencia, SF. Suite 201. 565-7667.

MCC Chronic/Life-Threatening Support Group: Every Wed., 12:30-2:30pm, in the MCC chapel, 150 Eureka St. Free, drop-in. Call 863-4434.

Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group offers ongoing support groups for the HIV community. Also for partners, friends and family. No fees. Call Jeff at 863-1581.

National Association of People With AIDS Fax is a fax-on-demand system which provides free and up-to-date information on HIV funding, grants, insurance, benefits, legal issues and more. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call NAPWA FAX: 202-789-2222.

Neg. Menz: Support group for Asian and Pacific Islander HIV- men, free. Sundays in Jan., 3-5pm. GAPA Community HIV Project, 1841 Market St. Info: Rafael,

575-3939 x323.

On the Barricades for Abortion Rights: Radical Women meeting to discuss increased attacks by the right wing. Thurs., Jan. 26. Dinner will be served at 6:45pm (\$5 donation). 7:30pm, Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. 864-1278.

People with disabilities who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender: Support group at Independent Living Resource Center, SF. Meets weekly, free. Info: Katie 863-0581.

Preparing for the Later Stages of Care: workshop by KAIROS Support for Caregivers, Sat., Jan. 21, 10am-4pm. \$35 donation suggested. Info: 861-0877.

Project Inform Update Town Mtg: AIDS treatments: 94 in review, hopes for 95. Free. Wed., Jan. 25, 7:30pm. Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St. 558-8669.

Project Open Hand provides free home-delivered hot meals, food bank services and nutrition counseling to anyone with symptomatic HIV and AIDS in San Francisco and Alameda Counties. Various ethnic and restricted diets available. No waiting list. Call 1-800-551-MEAL. peer counseling and practical support. For more information, call 864-CARE. the Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Community Center, Old Firehouse, Stanford Univ. Free. 725-4222.

UCSF AIDS Health Project offers: (1) ongoing groups for persons diagnosed with KS; (2) Tues. night support group for women who are caregivers or family members of PWAs; (3) support group for HIV+ African-American heterosexual men. Info: 476-3902.

Veterans Affairs Medical Center SF seeks volunteers to join its AIDS/ARC Volunteer Program. Volunteers visit patients in hospital and help in simple care tasks. Volunteers for AIDS Home Care and Phone Buddy Program are also needed. Contact Ronald Hunt, AIDS Volunteer Program Coordinator, VA Medical Center, 4150 Clement St., SF 94121, 750-2144.

Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF seeks volunteers to help provide care to PWAs. Training begins Feb. 13. Info: 750-6800 x21699.

Send Health and Community Listings to: Calendar Editor, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Helms

Continued from page 1

In addition, Helms hopes to get rid of "gay, lesbian, bisexual program managers, whose job it is to recruit homosexual employees and promote homosexuality," he said. "People should be hired based upon their own merits."

Broughton said he was aware of such a program position in the Department of Agriculture.

"That's not true," an agriculture department official told this reporter.

"Tom," chief of GLOBE's Department of Transportation branch, said he was unaware of such a position anywhere in the federal government. Tom said he did not want his surname used because of the risk of harming his government career.

"I personally don't feel that government dollars should be spent recruiting people based upon their sexual orientation," he said. "But that's a moot point because it doesn't occur."

Helms is using the now-familiar right wing tactic of claiming that gays and lesbians are receiving preferred treatment, hoping that, by doing so, fellow senators will be scared to vote against the bill for fear of appearing to support "special rights" for gays, said Doug Hattaway, spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

"Helms is trying to say that because the Department of Agriculture has a non-discrimination policy, that means that it specifically recruits homosexuals, and that means that homosexuals are a part of the affirmative action program," he said. "That's ridiculous."

Tom said that it is unfair for Helms to target GLOBE for a loss of office meeting space and

funding when the bill does not mention any of the other 21 officially-sanctioned federal employee groups. For example, he said, there are groups for black and Hispanic employees, and the government allows its office space to be used for purposes such as Bible study and weight-reduction discussions.

"If this bill were to pass, we'd be the only employee group denied its rights," he said.

"It may be a legitimate question as to whether the government should spend any money on employee groups," Hattaway said. "But it's not legitimate to single out the gay and lesbian group for discrimination."

Broughton said black and Hispanic groups are a different matter because "homosexuals are not racial or ethnic minorities."

GLOBE has the same purpose that other employee groups have, Tom said: "We're out here to provide education and information to management, to make the workplace better for all employees, and to provide support for our members."

Helms's bill bars the U.S. government from spending money to "embrace, accept, condone or celebrate homosexuality as a legitimate or normal lifestyle," and it specifically bars employee recruitment on the basis of sexual orientation and any gay-supportive seminars and programs.

That could mean an end to all workplace forums that deal with anti-gay discrimination, and it may even lead to an end to enforcement of the ban on anti-gay discrimination that exists in at least 17 federal agencies, Hattaway said, because employee time - and thus federal money - must be used to conduct anti-discrimination and sensitivity forums, and to investigate discrimination charges. ▼

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1208 Versalles Ave., Alameda, CA 94501.

Registrants commenced business under the

above fictitious business name on the date of

December 21, 1994. This business is con-

ducted by an individual. Signed CHRISTINE

W. HUEY. This statement was filed with the

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December 29 1994, January 5, 12, 19, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 192278

The following person(s) are doing business

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California Street, San Francisco, CA 94118:

ARLENE CHAVES, 4136 California Street,

San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) com-

enced business under the above fictitious

business name on the date of January 05,

1995. This business is conducted by co-part-

ners. Signed ARLENE CHAVES. This state-

ment was filed with the County Clerk of the

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January 05, 1995.

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 1995

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 1995

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 1995

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 1995

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 1995

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 1995

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 1995

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 1995

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 1995

LEGAL NOTICES

ment was filed with the County Clerk of the

City and County of San Francisco, CA on

January 06, 1995.

January 12, 19, 26, 1995, February 2, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 192037

The following person(s) are doing business

as DADDY'S, DADDY'S D., DADDY'S

BOYS, DADDY'S BACK ROOM, DADDY'S

DEN, 440 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA

94114: DADDY'S D. INC - CALIFORNIA,

3731 16th Street #2, San Francisco, CA

94114. Registrant(s) commenced business

under the above fictitious business name on

the date of N/A. This business is conducted

by co-partners. Signed PHILIP TURNER. This

statement was filed with the County Clerk of

the City and County of San Francisco, CA on

December 29, 1994.

January 12, 19, 26, 1995, February 2, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 191975

The following person(s) are doing business

as SHINNING STAR DYEWORKS, 318 Scott

Street, San Francisco, CA 94117: DEBORAH

KELLER, 318 Scott Street, San Francisco,

CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business

under the above fictitious business name on

the date of N/A. This business is conducted

by co-partners. Signed PHILIP TURNER. This

statement was filed with the County Clerk of

the City and County of San Francisco, CA on

December 23, 1994.

January 12, 19, 26, 1995, February 2, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 192025

The following person(s) are doing business

as S.F. VENDING SERVICE, 125 London

Street, San Francisco, CA 94112: RICHARD

E. SOLLENBERGER JR., 125 London

Street, San Francisco, CA 94112.

Registrant(s) commenced business under the

above fictitious business name on the date of

December 28, 1994. This business is conducted

by co-partners. Signed RICHARD

E. SOLLENBERGER JR. This statement was

filed with the County Clerk of the City and

County of San Francisco, CA on December

28, 1994.

January 12, 19, 26, 1995, February 2, 1994

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 191998

The following person(s) are doing business

as JO'S LINGERIE MINITHEATRE, 1260

Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103:

CHARLES MASON, 1260 Mission Street,

San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) com-

menced business under the above fictitious

business name on the date of December 27,

1994. This business is conducted by a corpora-

tion. Signed CHARLES MASON. This state-

ment was filed with the County Clerk of the

City and County of San Francisco, CA on

December 27, 1994.

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 192267

The following person(s) are doing business

as DAEDALUS PUBLISHING COMPANY,

MAINSTREAM PRESS, 1300 Page Street

#3, San Francisco, CA 94117: R.M. BAN-

NON, 1300 Page Street #3, San Francisco,

CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced busi-

ness under the above fictitious business

name on the date of January 1, 1995. This

business is conducted by an individual.

Signed R.M. BANNON. This statement was

filed with the County Clerk of the City and

County of San Francisco, CA on January 6,

1995.

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 1995

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 191645

The following person(s) are doing business

as 1) AAH VENTURE, 2) AVENTURA, 71

Seward Street, San Francisco, CA 94114:

LUZMILA L. CACENES, 71 Seward Street,

San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s)

commenced business under the above fic-

tious business name on the date of October

1, 1994. This business is conducted by an

individual. Signed LUZMILA L. CACENES.

This statement was filed with the County

Clerk of the City and County of San Fran-

cisco, CA on December 7, 1994.

December 21, 28, January 5, 12, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 192267

The following person(s) are doing business

as DEADALUS PUBLISHING COMPANY,

1300 Page St., #3, San Francisco, CA 94117:

R.M. BANNON, 1300 Page St., #3, San Fran-

cisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) com-

menced business under the above fic-

tious business name on the date of January

1, 1995. This business is conducted by co-

partners. Signed R.M. BANNON. This state-

ment was filed with the County Clerk of the

City and County of San Francisco, CA on

January 06, 1995.

January 19, 26, 1995, February 2, 9, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 192392

The following person(s) are doing business

as LAURIE SMITH GARDENING, 3820

Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94118:

LAURIE JEAN SMITH, 3820 Fulton Street,

San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s)

commenced business under the above fic-

tious business name on the date of January

1, 1995. This business is conducted by co-

partners. Signed LAURIE J. SMITH. This

statement was filed with the County Clerk of

the City and County of San Francisco, CA

on January 06, 1995.

January 19, 26, 1995, February 2, 9, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 192392

The following person(s) are doing business

as LAURIE SMITH GARDENING, 3820

Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94118:

LAURIE JEAN SMITH, 3820 Fulton Street,

San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s)

commenced business under the above fic-

tious business name on the date of January

1, 1995. This business is conducted by co-

partners. Signed LAURIE J. SMITH. This

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January 19, 26, 1995, February 2, 9, 1995

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Work with volunteers providing
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Into a New Museum Thoroughly Modern SFMoMA

by Roberto Friedman

First came the advance press releases and hard hat tours of the new San Francisco Museum of Modern Art under construction. The public relations blitz reached a fever pitch as the \$62-million building was readied for its January 18 opening: ANTICIPATE! my invitation to the press preview commanded.

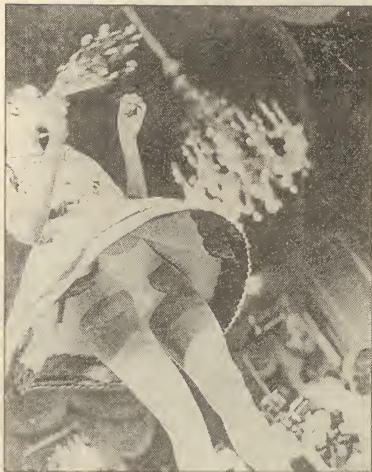
Next came the torrent of ink spilled in Bay Area print media and beyond. Before the new downtown cultural center had even opened its doors, we'd been treated to almost as many column inches on the treasures within and the splendor of Swiss



The new building interior for SFMoMA, designed by Swiss architect Mario Botta.

architect Mario Botta's design as the building has square feet (that's 225,000.) We'd played Meet the Curators in publications from the Pink Pages to *Artforum*. The cylindrical tower at the center of Botta's eccentric edifice has been variously described as a skylight, oculus, chimney and periscope. To me the turret is a giant metaphor: it's obviously the one-eyed snake, standing up at attention from the lap of luxury. Which is appropriate, since the San Francisco arts community is now enjoying its biggest walk-off since the museum first opened 60 years ago.

Continued on page 42



A Showcase for Queer Art Different (Brush) Strokes

by Roberto Friedman

While the new San Francisco Museum of Modern Art basks in the spotlight of the international media, gay and lesbian art lovers may want to visit the University Art Museum in Berkeley before

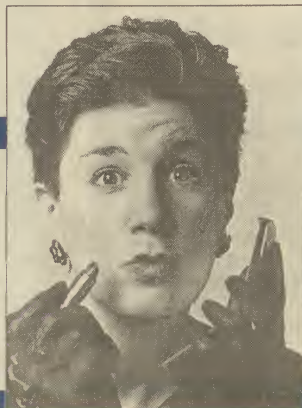
the obligatory look at SFMoMA.

"In a Different Light," which opened across the bay last week, is the first major museum exhibition devoted to the impact of lesbian and gay culture on 20th Century American art. Devised by

UAM Curator Lawrence Rinder and San Francisco artist Nayland Blake, the show is not only a breakthrough museum showcase for queer art, but also a new, queer take on how to present a museum show.

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Frontal View, Geoffrey Beene Fashion Show, by Zoe Leonard, 1990.



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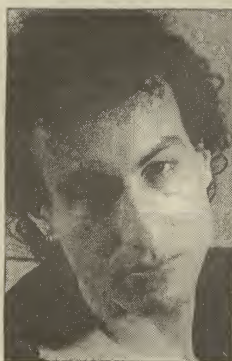
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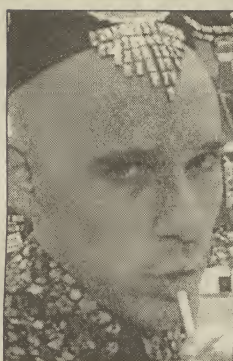
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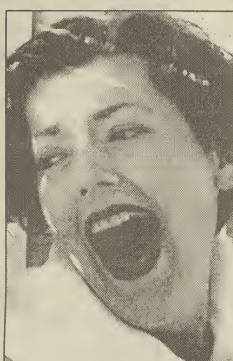
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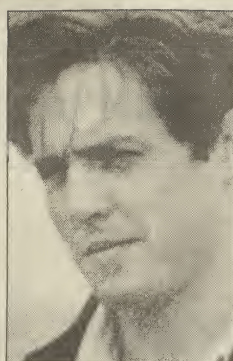
Tommi Avicolli-Mecca



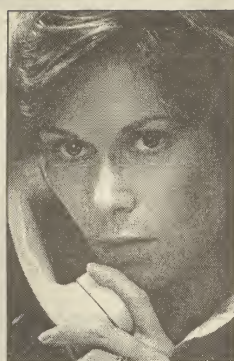
Gregg Taylor



Nan Parks



Hugh Grant



Kate Jackson

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by Aiva Nidnacs

Who knew? Out There's recent (and, let's face it, frivolous) guide to the 50 most powerful queers in San Francisco upset a lot of people. Our crack squad of phone operators hasn't been this busy since

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UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP! COME IN AND CHECK US OUT!

well, since freelancer Warren Sonbert defected to that other paper. Silly us. We thought we were celebrating some of our city's celebrities, and instead we get criticism.

So, right now, let's just say to everyone we omitted: hey, we're sorry. You were all #51. Really. There just wasn't room to fit you in. (Except for Robert Oakes, Frank Jordan's liaison to the lesbian and gay community. He was #367.)

Even those who were on the list weren't happy. Overheard at a party, one local wag complained about being listed beneath Tommi Avicolli-Mecca (#11). (Of course, there are many people in this town who would kill to be beneath Tommi, if you know what we mean.) Marga Gomez (#30) used our carefully-crafted catalog as an opportunity for ruthless anti-Aiva jokes at Josie's. Perhaps the most severe criticism of all came from queer seer and party prophet Gregg Taylor (#38), who claimed the only good thing about our list was that it stopped everyone talking about Nan Parks for once. (Memo to Nan: I'm sure Gregg was just joking, dear.)

Depressed by all this negativity, Aiva went with best friends Aime and Aina to the Digital Queers benefit at Center for the Arts. It was a giddy, good-natured, high cognole crowd—kind of like The Lion Pub's Macho Night gone co-ed. We have only one complaint: Lea DeLaria's interminable onstage show. Lea, we love you, really we do, but aren't there other cities to perform in?

In fact, Lea's monologue lasted so long Aiva had time to cab over to Red Doris for their standing-room-only salute to butchness. It was so crowded even little Jennie Livingston—yes, spunky director of *Paris Is Burning* and new SF resident—had trouble getting in, but Aiva squeezed inside long enough to enjoy a lovely scene by performance artist and spanking enthusiast Dawn Robinson.

Back at the DQ knees-up, Lea was still going, but ravishing restaurateur Frank Everett entertained Aiva in a

dark corner. Frank is the person to know at Boulevard. Evidently, Joanna Lumley recently dined there with Hugh Grant. "Joanna arrived half an hour early for Hugh," blabbed Frank, "so I asked if she'd like a drink from the bar. She seemed to think it was a novel suggestion. I brought her champagne. She sipped it like she'd never seen the stuff before, then smiled, mysteriously. She's been back three times since then." The news on Hugh? He may be English, but he's absolutely, definitely not gay.

Reliable sources at Frameline tell us that *Frisk*—Todd Verow's much-hyped movie version of Dennis Cooper's stranger-than-fiction story of homosexuality, sadism and insanity—will world premiere on the closing night of this June's Lesbian & Gay Film Festival.

Frisk is produced by impish Marcus Hu, whose company is also set to release *The Wild Reeds*—a sexy coming-of-age saga about confused French school lads—at the new Embarcadero multiplex in March. Hu rang to tell us he'd just watched *Making Love* on video—you know, the shameless 1980 Michael Ontkean/Harry Hamlin melodrama. In the credits, Hu recognized a familiar San Francisco name, Charlie Zukow, as "man in bar #4." Zukow, of course, is one of our city's more elegant publicists, so we're not sorry that his acting career was stalled at this embryonic stage.

Everyone tells Aiva that lesbian-themed films are blooming. Opening soon is Whoopi Goldberg's *Boys on the Side*. In June, there's *The Incredibly True Adventures of 2 Girls Who Fell in Love*. And in March, look for *Bar Girls*, which *Variety* claims "does for lesbians what numerous American movies have done for heterosexuals." So it makes them look like insipid losers or repressed alcoholics who care more about living up to romantic clichés than good conversation and casual sex? We thought *Claire of the Moon* already did that.

Aiva's conclusion from this movie news is that while Hollywood is striving to represent us in a positive light—as mediocre

as straight people, if you will—some of us real-life queers are struggling to reclaim our reputations as gossipy, duplicitous queens.

Worried about this trend, we have decided to do some further research. Are you cunning and bitchy, or have you turned into a new Hollywood stereotype: the honest, goodhearted homo? To help find out, take this easy multiple choice quiz:

1. When you watch *Melrose Place*, who do you identify with most:

[a] Mini-skirted mogul Heather Locklear?

[b] Maudlin mannequin Matt?

[c] Elaine Corral during the trailers for the 10 o'clock News?

2. When you arrive at a best friend's party, what do you do first:

[a] Head for the person you fancy?

[b] Head for the bar?

[c] Head for your host who looks ridiculous in that taffeta-and-vinyl vest? and say "Darling, that's lovely—is it Gaultier?"

3. When you watch *Absolutely Fabulous*, do you think:

[a] It's a documentary about you and your pals?

[b] It's a joyless show that confirms your worst fears about the fashion industry?

[c] You've never seen it because you're always too drunk to set your VCR?

4. While your one-night-stand is in the shower, you notice his/her diary. Do you:

[a] Furtively speed read, then replace it under the cat litter tray?

[b] Think about reading it, but decide that it couldn't possibly say anything you don't already know?

[c] Brazenly examine it, take copious notes, and then berate the startled trick for their poor handwriting and tired sexual fantasies?

If you answered mostly [a], you're obviously a real queer. If you answered mostly [b], you must be straight, or you're turning into Kate Jackson. And if you answered mostly [c], you should have been at the Digital Queers benefit. It was great fun. ▼

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B.A.R. classifieds really work!

The class rings haven't been designed and no one's talking about a school mascot, but when the doors open next week, The Harvey Milk Institute will become the world's first college for and about sexual minorities.

The inaugural term offers an ambitious program of 57 courses covering everything from auto mechanics and finance to theatre appreciation – all created with the gay community in mind.

learning." Lisac, Katz and their colleagues on the board of directors have all volunteered their time to get the college off the ground.

"The idea came up in early 1994," Lisac said in a recent interview, "when several of us who were frustrated working in our own academic environments felt we needed to create a safe space for queer students in educational programs. Many of us have courses that deal with queer studies at our campuses, but it's a very difficult proposition to get things through curriculum committees. We got tired of fighting and decided that institutions have a lot at stake in keeping things the way they are. We decided to do it ourselves."

While no credit or grades will be given, Lisac sees a time, given the number of instructors

proposing a course ideas and the big advance enrollment, when the Milk Institute could become an accredited college with its own campus. In addition to the academic freedom an all-gay school might create, Lisac sees other advantages.

"College, for straight people, is a place to go and not only learn but also meet potential

mates. Our idea, quite frankly, is not only to allow people to broaden their educational horizons and keep on learning, but also to meet people with similar interests. It's really a sign of maturation in our community that we can put together a university and support it as a community, and in going to classes meet new friends and develop new interests. It's a great alternative to the bars."

Among the innovative courses set for the institute's first term is a hands-on filmmaking class lead by lesbian filmmaker Barbara Hammer. Her idea is to

spend a long weekend with a small group of students – both beginners and the experienced – creating a film.

"Barbara will coordinate, not necessarily direct, allowing people to get into work groups, take video cameras and shoot what they want," says Lisac. "Then they'll edit, invite significant others to see the final product, and have a party. She is looking at the process as being as fun as the final product."

Another promising course is Danny Mangin's five-session look (starting March 6) at gays and lesbians as seen on TV from the '50s to the present. Mangin, whose City College gay film courses are well-known, is tackling television for the first time. "I'd love to see him deconstruct *Gilligan's Island*," says Lisac. "It sounds like a hoot!"

If that sounds too mainstream for your tastes, how about exploring the process of creative expression from a spiritual angle? Taught by a Radical Faerie named Tree, "Creative Block and the Queer Artist: A Support Workshop" promises to move students past creative blocks, and as Lisac puts it, "heal spaces inside themselves that may have to do with being gay or lesbian."

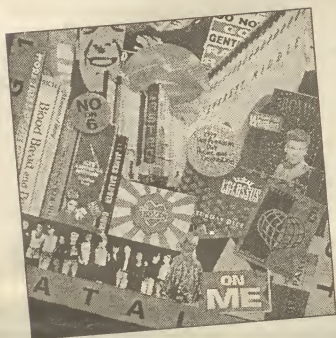
Other highlights include an acting class for lesbians taught by Carolyn Gage, who has created women's theatre performance groups all over the country; performance artist and comedian Terry Baum's courses on theatre appreciation and playwrighting; a class on the work of Marlon Riggs taught by Frameline Board President Karl Knapper; and videomaker Charles Lofton's "screenings and discussions" courses on "queer experimental film."

Given the interests and sophistication of its targeted student body, Lisac sees nearly unlimited possibilities for the Milk Institute's future.

"There are so many areas we can grow into. Down the line we will probably be doing a lot of music courses; particularly 20th-century music. We've talked about a course on drag etiquette. And I've been joking with people that we'll probably

have the best design department in the world at some point in the future. It's really going to depend on what the community wants." ▼

■ Call the Harvey Milk Institute at 552-7200 for more information.



classes will be held at Everett Middle School (450 Church Street).

The Milk Institute's curriculum was designed by Dean Andrew Lisac, who is also assistant dean of continuing studies at Stanford. He began working on the project last year after Jonathan Katz, chair of the City College Gay and Lesbian Studies Department, came to him with the idea of establishing an institution for the community that was designed, as the impressively produced catalog puts it, "purely for the love of

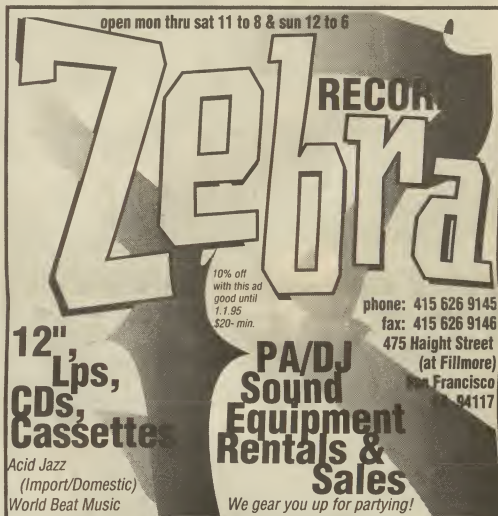


Photo: Rick Gerharter

Jonathan Katz, left, Tom Ammann and Harry Britt at opening ceremonies for the Milk Institute.



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'101 Humiliating Stories' No Ordinary Subversive

by K Kaufman

It's hard to say exactly why Lisa Kron's *101 Humiliating Stories* is as good as it is. More than the sum of its parts, this quirky, well-acted performance piece on the unlikely themes of personal embarrassment and exposure not only makes you laugh, it makes you feel larger, better, more fully human.

Kron is already well-known to Bay Area audiences for her work with the New York-based comedy troupe the Five Lesbian Brothers and her previous solo work, *All My Hopes and Dreams*. Directed by John Hoffman, her current show arrives for a three-week run at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint following critically-acclaimed performances at several New York venues.

Its title notwithstanding, the show is composed of 17 vignettes, ranging from childhood reminiscences to a thoroughly postmodern tableau in which Kron nods off mid-sentence. Recreating moments of intense personal vulnerability in the actress' life, each piece turns on the unpredictable, humorously defiant set of "secondary behaviors" that, she says, often emerge in such situations.

After walking down the hallway of her workplace with her skirt inadvertently tucked into her pantyhose, Kron trans-

forms embarrassment to exhibitionism with a triumphant fantasy of wagging her Rubenesque butt in her coworkers' faces. In another piece, an uncontrollable outburst of star-struck, adolescent behavior betrays Kron's facade of ultracool disinterest when she and her girlfriend meet film actress Sigourney Weaver at an AIDS fundraiser.

While these stories are funny in and of themselves, they are moved beyond the realm of stand-up by Kron's ability to accommodate the seemingly incongruous in her work. This complexity works on many levels, from the chic, yet clown-like striped lounging pajamas she wears onstage to the mix of personal and universal themes in her material.

Indeed, while few people may have been in the exact situations Kron describes, it is almost impossible not to identify with them. The pieces on teenage angst are particularly evocative; for example, a hilarious and terrifying episode in which a stray sanitary napkin pops out of Kron's purse and is left lying in the school hallway all day.

Kron's uncanny ability to connect with her audience is rooted in her equally impressive skills as a writer and performer. Working with only a few basic props — chair, table, music stand — she creates an almost palpable sense of situa-



Lisa Kron

tion and character through her use of voice, gesture and closely observed detail.

A dead-on impression of over-made-

up saleswomen at a New York City cosmetics counter comes complete with squawky nasal accents and Kron's very funny descriptions of their "big hair" and "Shroud of Turin" faces. A gay-friendly older woman in a college play is sweetly recalled as looking like "Margaret Hamilton if she had been a dried apple doll."

Kron is similarly adept at handling the underlying political concerns of her work. While she defines herself from the outset as a "big lesbian," Kron's physical and sexual identity is only one element of her comedy, integral but never intrusive.

Whatever queer sensibility the show may be said to have lies in Kron's clear vision of the liberating power of valuing those parts of ourselves that we have traditionally been taught to silence or hide.

Humiliation may make us human, she seems to say, but exposure makes us strong. In *101 Humiliating Stories*, Kron covers the pain of this process with humor, creating in herself a funny, but ultimately subversive, role model who makes the whole thing look easy and encourages us to take the leap. ▼

■ Lisa Kron's *101 Humiliating Stories* continues at Josie's through January 29. Call 861-7933 for information.

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'Karla and Griff' at Theatre Rhino Always Hurt the One You Love

by Erin Blackwell

Karla and Griff, the title characters in Vivienne Laxdal's gripping melodrama about untrue love, lesbian style, are respectively lower and upper class, brunette and (frosted) blonde, butch and femme, sinned against and sinning. After spending several girlish summers away at camp, they break the homophobe barrier on their last night together, only to lose each other to very different destinies. When they meet again three years later for a second (non-consensual) one-night stand, love's not in the air — revenge is.

To reveal what happens in the second act would spoil the suspense, which is almost all the exposition-laden, flashback-riddled first act has going for it. Let's just say, things pick up after intermission, when the characters get to stop giggling, move into present tense and get down to some serious psychic torture, partnered self-mutilation and blood ritual-cum-score-settling.

Lisa Johnston, as Karla, swaggers around in beat-up boots, ragged jeans and great biceps. Wearing her dad's knife in a holster over her right hip pocket, she exudes the ageless, bright-eyed gumption and angst of a generation-X Peter Pan. If only she could show a little real emotion — but that might contradict her working-class, closeted, baby butch code of ethics.

Griff — short for Janet Griffith — is Wendy with a sex drive, running off to get "poked" at neighboring boys' camps whenever possible. Danielle Thys does a good imitation of a mannered, high-pitched airhead until (in the second act) she comes alive in a truly gorgeous drunk scene, which moves into seduction, climaxing in the best (lesbian) love scene anyone's ever done anywhere.

Director Adele Prandini keeps the pace so lively throughout act one that the actors never settle into their surroundings. The detailed, cluttered tripart set by Pam Peniston never feels lived in. Things move so quickly that lines are lost — not to mention feelings — and the illustrative flashbacks aren't given the social realistic treatment that alone would justify their cumbersome detail. In the second act, all is forgiven, as the play comes alive with a pleasing series of surprises.

No directorial magic can make up for miscasting. The third wheel in this anti-love story is Karla's dad, played by Peter Alfano. We know he's her father because he calls her his "little girl." Otherwise he could be an annoying roommate, an ex-lover, a queer buddy — you name it. Almost nothing about him suspends our disbelief: not his



Danielle Thys and Lisa Johnston

pot belly, not his obsessive love for the wife who done him wrong, not the way he slumps in his chair watching television. As long as he's onstage trying hard to look like somebody's dad, the play can't move.

Last but not least, Sarah Huntington Rossell gives an almost flawless 11th-hour cameo performance. If only the playwright would throw out the first act, start at the top of the second and give Rossell more stage time. Oh, well.

In spite of its flaws, *Karla and Griff* provides a riveting, provocative, and ultimately very satisfying evening of theater no self-respecting dyke drama junkie can afford to miss. ▼

■ *Karla and Griff* continues at Rhino, Wed.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 3 and 7 p.m. through February 11th. Tickets \$12-\$18. Theatre Rhinoceros Mainstage, 2926 16th Street. Reservations 861-5079.

Tommy Tune's 'Grease' Deserves EPA Warning Environmental Hazard

by Chad Jones

The title of the musical may be *Grease*, but Day-Glo oil slick is more like it.

The 1994 Broadway touring version of *Grease*, now strutting its vapid stuff at the Golden Gate Theatre, should be inspired fun, but in the hands of supervising producer Tommy Tune and director (and Tune protégé) Jeff Calhoun, this newfangled '90s version of the fabulous '50s is a misconceived mess awash in sets and costumes in every shade of fluorescent color known to man. Headache-inducing and garish from beginning to end, this production bleeds the sappy charm from this beloved work, revealing *Grease* to be an empty shell of a musical.

When Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey's *Grease* opened on Broadway in February 1972, it was a cute little piece of nostalgic fluff. Ushering in a wave of '50s sentimentality that included *American Graffiti* at the movies and *Happy Days* and *Laverne and Shirley* on TV, *Grease* let it be known that dwelling on the past, the '50s in particular, was an acceptable—even fun—way to ignore the aftermath of the '60s, the continuing debacle of the Vietnam War and any horrors the '70s had to offer. The 1978 screen adaptation of the musical starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John became the top-grossing movie musical of all time and spawned hit after hit from its soundtrack, securing a place in musical history for the rockin' and rollin' hipsters at Rydell High.

Why Tommy Tune decided the musical theatre world of 1994 needed another production of *Grease* is a mystery. That Tune and Calhoun decided to void the musical of its nostalgia and force a '90s sensibility on this quaint retro piece is not only a mystery—it's a crime.

It's a bad sign when former Monkee Davy Jones (as DJ Vince Fontaine) bops onto the stage in a gaudy plaid pantsuit and proceeds to "work" the audience before the show begins. He laughs, he jokes (unfunny), he gets audience members onstage for a dance contest—all the while looking like a man who is merely going through the motions, thinking only about that paycheck and the final performance.

Sally's not bad, but ...

The forced fun creates a rocky start that is only slightly mitigated by the appearance of Sally Struthers, the erstwhile Gloria Bunker Stivic of TV's *All in the Family*, as Rydell High English teacher Miss Lynch. For all the guffaws her name inspires, Struthers is quite good. In fact, she is the only real bright spot in the cast. Known these days as a spokesperson for starving children ("for just pennies a day ...") and mail-order degrees, Struthers' comic timing is strong and her dippy old-maid characterization spot-on.

But when the best thing that can be said for a touring musical is a good performance by Sally

Struthers, there are some major problems that need attention. The cartoon-covered proscenium that surrounds John Arnone's stage-on-a-stage set (colored in brain-numbing fluorescents, of course) depicts images from the '50s to remind us that in spite of all the evidence to the contrary, this really is a musical about that decade. There's Ike and Mamie, there's a Chevy with tail fins, and oddly enough, there's a giant image of Olivia Newton-John and John Travolta, hovering over the show, like ghosts from a good production who have come to haunt the desecration taking place below them.

As Danny Zuko, the head greaser, Rex Smith is a little long in the tooth to be playing a high school senior. (Considering that Smith, best known for his stints in *The Pirates of Penzance* and as host of *Solid Gold*, made his Broadway debut in the original production of *Grease*, he could actually be the father of a high school senior.) When Smith has a courtship scene with Trisha Gorman as Sandy Dumbrowski, there's a sleazy father/daughter feel to it that hardly belongs in a feel-good musical. For his age, Smith looks and sounds great, but he's not at all convincing as a high schooler.

Not, however, that this lame production deigns to evoke any sense of high school whatsoever. The lackluster sets and the pared-down touring cast give the impression that Rydell has the world's ugliest campus, a student population of about 20 and a faculty of one.

Towering orange pompadours

Tune and his producers couldn't secure the rights to the wildly popular songs that were added to the movie version, so they stuck to Jacobs and Casey's original score and added the 1959 Skyliners hit "Since I Don't Have You" as a torch song for Sandy. Gorman performs the song nicely, but the addition of an authentic '50s relic points to the slapdash, who-cares-what-we-do-to-it attitude that permeates this production.

The one moment of camp delight this show has to offer is Kevin-Anthony's performance as the teen angel who croons "Beauty School Dropout." Coifed with a towering (orange, ough) plastic pompadour and backed up by a similarly done-up line of chorus boys, Kevin-Anthony turns the song into a soul/gospel showstopper.

Grease was never meant to change the world. Its boppy score and silly book originally offered a charming flight from reality. This "new" Broadway production is nothing more than a glossy, failed attempt to make a buck off the '50s as seen from the faux MTV perspective. Uninspired at every turn and with a set that looks like the Pepto Bismol-coated stomach of a junk food addict, this *Grease* is in dire need of an oil change. ▼

■ *Grease continues at the Golden Gate Theatre through February 5. Call 776-1999 for tickets.*



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Esperpento
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The corner of Valencia and 22nd Streets is a very good place to be hungry.

When I first moved to this neighborhood, local dining meant burritos, fried rice, or KFC. Or there was the Flying Saucer down the street, where the food was divine, but the prices (and wait for reservations) matched its beyond-the-stratosphere theme. Now, the hardest part about dining on Valencia is choosing a restaurant. What was once the pink and perpetually deserted Pizzazz is now the SpagWaggish* Boogaloo's; the dim and perpetually deserted Blue Muse is now The Rooster.

Spearheading this trend was Esperpento, one of the first eggs-and-bacon joints to slick up and go trendy. One day it was Roman Cowboy, a perpetually empty hash house with a funny menu. Then, practically overnight, there was a red awning and photos of Dali on the walls. Shortly after that locals saw lines snaking around the corner and smelled garlic in the air. The tapas trend had arrived.

Tapas make a lot of sense in Spain, where the evening meal is typically not served until 9 or 10 p.m. Tapas bars offer a wide selection of hot and cold appetizers, served on small plates to accompany after-work glasses of sherry or wine, and are busiest during the early evening hours. But San Francisco, as anyone who's tried to find dinner after 10 p.m. knows, is not a late night city. Linger over your amontillado and grilled squid a little too long, and you'll end up supping at the Baghdad again. Bowing to American dining habits, Esperpento offers sit-down table service and a small selection of entrees to follow the extensive tapas listings. After all, no one's going to wait 45 minutes to get into a place just to eat a couple of appetizers.

There are generally two American approaches to tapas, both of which work equally well at Esperpento. If you're always convinced that your companions' dinners are better than yours, take the grazing approach. Order lots of plates, and share and nibble to your jealous heart's content. If you're a big hungry boy who likes his three squares, get a few tapas to grease the gullet while you wait on your paella or rabbit stew.

Quaint, but not quick

There's a clock on the wall purporting to tell the time in Spain. According to Esperpento, it's always 7:46 across the Atlantic. Since that was the only clock in the room, I don't know how long it actu-

ally took to get our platter of seafood paella (\$26 for two). The menu said 35 minutes, but we were starving, and you know what that does to your sense of time. Paella-bound or not, this is not the place for a quickie. It's fun, it's festive, it's cozy, but it's not fast. Tracking down a waiter to get water or place an order can take some creative gyrations and good lungs, since all sounds bounce off the high walls twice as loud.

Doing the appetizer route, we ordered gambas al ajillo (\$6.50), brocheta de vieiras (\$5.50), and a red pepper salad (\$4.50). The small oval plates are served with a basket of French bread and a cup of green pimiento-stuffed olives, the kind usually served in martinis. The gambas are small shrimps in the shell sautéed

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in olive oil with lots of chopped garlic. The shrimps are fresh and tasty, but the real appeal of this dish is sopping up every drop of garlic-studded oil with chunks of bread. Slick flaps of roasted

red peppers come in another olive oil bath. My favorite way to eat roasted peppers is right over the sink as I'm peeling them (after blackening the skin over a burner on the stove), but the oil here is green and fruity, and according to the Eligible Bachelorette, this one's the winner. Balanced on a heap of orangey-pink Spanish rice, the three skewered grilled scallops are lusciously smoky on the outside and velvety within. But five-plus bucks for three nubbins?

Good sangria, but chunks of mushy apple wouldn't be my first choice of fruit to float. Finally, here is our paella, a big steaming pan with the handles carefully swaddled in napkins. The rice is moist, well flavored and abundantly sprinkled with shellfish, shrimp, and large pieces of snapper. But generosity isn't everything; the mussels and clams inside those big shiny shells are withered from overcooking, and the chunks of fish come apart in stiff, waxy flakes. The whole, comprised of that good and plentiful rice, is clearly better than the individual sum of its parts.

By the time we get the check, it's very late in Spain. "That was pretty good," says the Eligible Bachelorette. "But I think we should stick to the topless part next time." ▼

*A reference to the groovy diner in the Lower Haight called Spaghetti Western, referred to as "Spag Wag" by its pierced-nose clientele.



Esperpento

Photo: Marc Geller

Terrence McNally's 'Frankie and Johnny' Meaningful Chatter

by Chad Jones

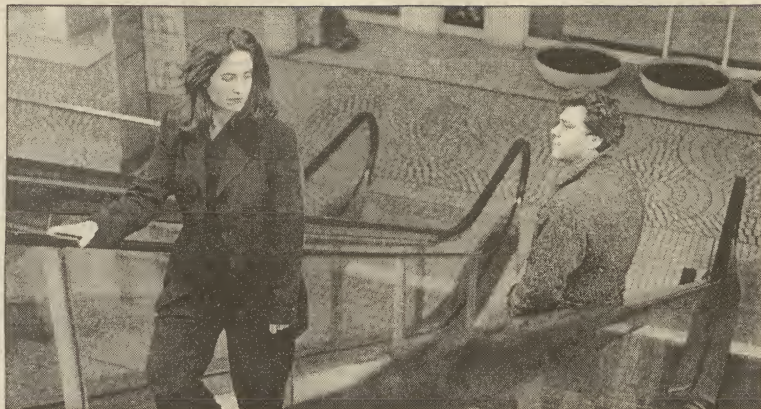
Gay playwright Terrence McNally's play *Frankie and Johnny in the Claire de Lune* is a compassionate, rough-edged exploration of communication between lovers. In an intimate new production at the Noh Space, McNally's 1987 off-Broadway hit receives the kind of attention to detail that makes the play work.

The details come out in Fred Eiras' shabby New York apartment set, where waitress Frankie shuts out the world. The grime on the walls goes unnoticed by the woman, who sits alone in her sagging bed eating ice cream and watching a small, decrepit black-and-white TV. The attention to detail is even more apparent in Christine Young's sensitive direction and the energetic, earnest performances of Michelle Darby (Frankie the waitress) and Kevin Campbell (Johnny the fry cook).

The small confines of the Noh Space allows the small but important facets of McNally's

rich script to emerge naturalistically. The play begins with the enthusiastic sounds of Frankie and Johnny making love. With the easy part over with, the rest of the play zeroes in on the difficulties of post-coital conversations and the barriers put up by Frankie and the tearing down of said barriers by Johnny. Both Darby and Campbell are too young to fully portray the world-weariness and aching loneliness of these two minor players in life's drama, but their commitment to the roles compensates for their youth.

Darby's Frankie is wounded and defensive, but her yearning for a better life is palpable. Campbell's Johnny is an aggressive blowhard, yet his incessant chatter and sheer determination poignantly convey his fears and anxieties. Together, this Frankie and Johnny, unlike the doomed lovers in the old song, make a confusing couple. Frankie resists Johnny at every turn, but Johnny persists. By play's end, it is unclear whether Frankie has realized she loves Johnny or whether she has simply given in



Frankie and Johnny In the Claire de Lune at the Noh Space. Call 771-3922 for tickets.

to his persistent entreaties.

Either way, the two hours of conversation that lead to the "maybe" happy ending are full of insightful, often funny ruminations on relationships and the general difficulty of connecting

with other humans. That a gay playwright has written a play about a heterosexual couple matters little when the play deals so forthrightly with the universal themes of loneliness, fear, hurt and comfort that play a part in

all relationships, gay or straight.

The delightful *Noh Space* production displays the best of McNally's script, and showcases some strong young talent and the work of a skilled production team. ▼



'Fall' Is an Easy Read

Legends of the Fall is the cinematic equivalent of a sprawling novel, an "easy read" for a rainy, nothing-to-do Saturday afternoon. Anthony Hopkins, a disillusioned cavalry officer, lives in Montana with his three boys, Aidan Quinn, Brad Pitt and Henry Thomas. When Thomas returns from college with beautiful fiancé Julia Ormond, sparks click between her and roguish, troubled Pitt (whose performance merges his *A River Runs Through It* and *Interview With the Vampire* characters). Although Hopkins has rallied against war, young Thomas itches to fight the Kaiser in WWI; when tragedy strikes, Quinn and Pitt play out a variation on the Cain and Abel theme. Director Ed Zwick (*Glory*) paid careful attention to period detail, though more time could have been spent working up an original narrative. — *At the Coronet (752-4400)* — Daniel Mangin

—Daniel Mangin

McCrary Boyd's 'Down- Home Tales'

Author Blanche McCrary Boyd (*Revolution of Little Girls, Mourning the Death of Magic, Nerves*) will read from and discuss her collection of essays *The Redneck Way of Knowledge: Down-Home Tales at A Clean Well-Lighted Place* for Books on Thursday, January 17 at 7:30 p.m., and at Boadacia's Books in Berkeley on the 18th (also at 7:30 p.m.). ▼



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The Darker Side of Glamour

by Jeffery Kennedy

Cry: The Johnnie Ray Story by Jonny Whiteside; Barricade Books, \$22.95

Oregonian Johnnie Ray invented rock 'n' roll with his 1951 hit single, "Cry." Heavily influenced by rhythm-and-blues singers such as La Vern Baker and Billie Holiday, Ray introduced a new kind of emotionalism to the general public. He shouted. He swooned. He dropped to his knees and pounded the stage with his fists. No one outside of small clubs had witnessed this type of melodrama since Al Jolson did his thing 30 years earlier.

Coming smack in the middle of one of the most socially

repressive periods of American history, "Cry" electrified the nation. Teenage girls rioted at Ray's shows five years before Elvis evoked similar responses with "Heartbreak Hotel." And Jerry Lee Lewis stole his piano-kicking gesture from Ray. Yet, despite his impact on other musicians, Ray is consistently overlooked by rock 'n' roll historians. Why?

Because, as biographer Jonny Whiteside shows in his biography, Johnnie Ray wasn't like other guys.

Emotional, skinny, half deaf, and sexually ambivalent, Ray never found a niche in the entertainment business. His career was a string of missed opportunities and disappointments. Despite the massive success of "Cry" and Ray's tremendous popularity with teenyboppers

and the upscale cafe set, his managers and producers didn't know how to handle him. Columbia Records producer Mitch Miller admired Ray's vocal gift but had him record novelty songs and tired standards as part of a misguided attempt to tone down the singer's naturally explosive style.

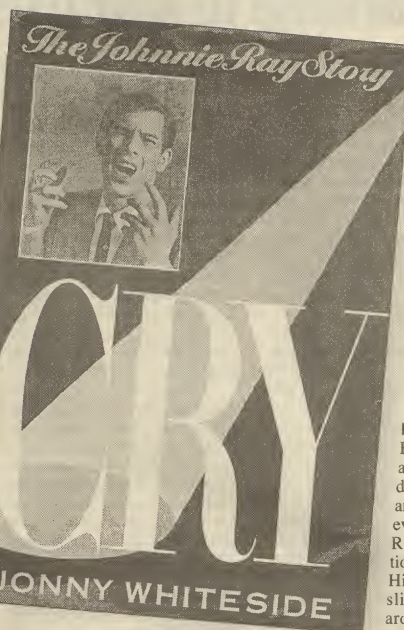
Marriage of convenience

But popular he was, so popular in fact that at one point 20th Century Fox signed the photogenic Ray to a movie deal. But after his appearance in *There's No Business Like Show Business* with Ethel Merman and Marilyn Monroe in 1954, Darryl Zanuck dropped his option because he thought Ray was too weird.

Naturally, too, the scandal press had a field day with Ray's hard drinking and sexual indiscretions. Both arrests for gay solicitation in Detroit received front page coverage, and the ensuing damage to his reputation dogged him until his death from liver failure in 1990.

Although Ray was primarily homosexual, his most public relationships were with women. He married socialite Marilyn Morrison in 1952. The two were friends, but the marriage was essentially a publicity stunt to polish up Ray's tarnished public image. They divorced a few months later.

Then, around 1960, Ray began an affair with married New York journalist Dorothy Kilgallen. She was crushed when her husband demanded that she stop seeing Ray. She



Whiteside gleefully recounts Ray's libidinous antics with Kilgallen, he falls silent when it comes to describing Franklin and Ray's sex life. One presumes it was just as torrid.

Bum deal

Beneath the affairs, scandals, booze and pills, however, runs Ray's unquestionable talent. His voice — slightly rough around the edges, drenched with pathos —

truly thrills. He is a male Timi Yuro (another misdirected performer). How frustrating for Ray. He knew he had a big talent, but because of who he was, that talent could only shine briefly in a big way.

In later years, Ray often toured England (he shared a London stage with Judy Garland during one of her last performances) and Australia, where he continued to be admired and respected by the public. He also drank himself silly in his Hollywood home. A house fire destroyed his gold records in the '70s. His name was misspelled "Johnny" on the replacements. ▼

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From May Sarton's *Well* is a collection that pairs Edith Royce Schade's black and white photographs with brief excerpts of May Sarton's prose and poetry. The result is a feast for mind and heart; Schade's photos illuminate Sarton's writing and are in turn enriched by Sarton's words.

Schade's interest in Sarton's work began when she first read *Plant Dreaming Deep* in 1971. In 1980, she joined with a friend to give a talk on Sarton at the local library; Schade showed slides of her photos which served to illuminate the texts being discussed. An enthusiastic audience response led to a correspondence with Sarton, more photos, and ultimately, this book.

I can't think of a better introduction to Sarton's writing than this collection. And Schade's photos serve, not as illustrations, but as variations on the themes suggested by the texts. The photographs are stunning, from the breathtaking simplicity of a single leaf floating on air, to homey pictures of Sarton's home. "If you are a writer or an artist," Sarton writes, "it is work that fulfills and makes you come into wholeness, and that goes on through a lifetime. Whatever the wounds that have to heal, the moment of creation assures that all is well, that one is still in tune with the universe,



May Sarton

that the inner chaos can be probed and distilled into order and beauty." *From May Sarton's Well* is a book to be treasured. ▼

—Deborah Peifer

Good News, Bad News for Opera Buffs Looking Ahead to SFO '95

by Paul Thomason

The San Francisco Opera's 1995 fall season is a surprisingly traditional one.

Firmly rooted in the 19th century, the most contemporary opera being offered is Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, which premiered in 1904. In 1996 the company will give *Harvey Milk*, an opera based on SF's first openly gay supervisor which receives its world premier on Saturday in Houston. However, there are many extremely accessible American works like *The Ballad of Baby Doe* or *Susannah* that SF Opera ought to be reviving regularly. How can a company with Sir Charles Mackerras as its principal guest conductor have two consecutive seasons without a single work by Janacek? The New York City Opera sold out its run of Schoenberg's admittedly daunting *Moses and Aaron* a few seasons ago, why can't our company tackle it? There simply is no excuse for an opera season where Puccini is the most contemporary composer. For shame!

Astonishingly, and equally worrying, there are no American operatic debuts among all the debuting artists. (When was the last time that happened?) Once upon a time the local company took justifiable pride in skimming the cream off of European operatic talent before anyone else in this country. What happened?

There are two new productions being premiered here during the season: Gounod's *Faust* (opening October 26) and Mozart's *Don Giovanni* (November 14). Both are being designed by Gerard Howland, who is still the company's resident designer and the man responsible for all seven new productions last season and the 1992 summer season's *William Tell*.

As if to confirm that sometimes no bad deed goes unrewarded, Laurie Feldman, whose production of Rossini's *Otello* last season was so utterly reprehensible, will direct two operas this fall: Wagner's *Die Walkure* (a revival of Nikolaus Lehnhoff's production) and the company premier of Dvorak's *Rusalka* (in a production designed by Gunther Schneider-Siemssen and jointly owned by the Houston and Seattle opera companies.)

Vaness as Ann Boleyn

But there is good news. Carol Vaness returns after a year's absence to open the season on September 8 in Donizetti's *Anna Bolena*. Joining her, in what might be the strongest cast this fall, are conductor Roberto Abbado and bass Roberto Scanduzzi (both of whom were so superb in 1992's *Forza del Destino*), Suzanne Mentzer, and tenor Giuseppe Sabbatini making his local debut.

Also returning after a season away is Sir Charles Mackerras. Unfortunately he is only conducting one opera, *Rusalka* (opening November 26), with Renee Fleming, Stephanie Sundine, Felicity Palmer and Sergei Larin, and a concert on November 17 celebrating his 70th birthday (guest artists to be announced.) SF Opera needs to make much

more use of Mackerras.

There are some auspicious debuts this fall. Olga Borodina must not be superstitious since her debut in Rossini's *Cenerentola* falls on Friday, October 13th. (Her conductor, Carlo Rizzi is also debuting then, and both Kurt Streit and Simone Alaimo make welcome returns in the work.)

The astonishing mezzo Marjana Lipovsek, who makes mincemeat of such killer roles as the Nurse in Strauss's *Frau ohne Schatten*, is finally giving local opera goers a chance to cheer her in person. Alas, she's appearing as Fricka in *Die Walkure* (November 4) rather than in a meatier part. Also debuting in *Walkure* will be tenor Poul Elming, whose appearances at Bayreuth have generated much publicity. Fortunately James Morris, perhaps the world's premier male Wagnerian singer, will be singing the first five

Wotans (replaced by Willard White for the last two.) Others in the cast, conducted by music director Donald Runnicles, are Gabriele Schnaut, Anne Evans and Victor von Halem.

The other auspicious debut this season is John Mark Ainsley, whose sweet, lyric tenor I have often admired on recordings. He bows as Don

Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*. (His replacement in the last three performances will be Stanford Olsen in his debut.) All three

female roles in the Mozart opera will be debuts: Deborah Riedel (Anna), Daniela Dessi (Elvira) and Rebecca Evans (Zerlina). Samuel Ramey returns for the first three Dons, then William Shimell takes over. Alfonso Antoniozzi (who sang Taddeo in *L'Italiana in Algeri* during the Rossini festival) will return as Leporello and Earle Patriarco is Masetto. Runnicles will conduct.

More good conducting

Also good news is that Patrick Summers, whose conducting of Rossini's *Otello* helped make it the musical high point of last season, will be in charge of *Faust*, and that tenor Richard Leech and Ramey will be in the cast. (Nancy Gustafson will be Marguerite and Rodney Gilfry will debut as Valentin.)

The company premier of Glinka's *Ruslan and Lyudmila* will be the second night of the season. This co-production with the

Kirov Opera is produced by Lotfi Mansouri, conducted by Valery Gergiev (his only assignment this season) and has Anna Netrebko debuting as Lyudmila, Jeffrey Wells and Vladimir Ognovenko sharing the role of Ruslan, and Vladimir Atlantov as Finn.

La Traviata opens September 16 with the same soprano (Veronica Villarroel) and tenor (Roberto Aronica) who put everyone to sleep during their 1993 *Bohemes*. Conductor Steven Mercurio and bass-baritone Gregory Yurisich both debut in the Verdi work. The split opera this season is *Butterfly* with Catherine Malfitano (debut on October 3) and Leech, then Yoko Watanabe (debut on December 2) and Richard Margison, all conducted by Runnicles. ▼

■ For tickets and more information call the box office at (415) 864-3330.



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SFMOMA's new building exterior

Photo: Richard Barnes

SFMOMA

Continued from cover

Why do I feel that "our" new MoMA is slightly monstrous? Could it be its big hulking mass, solid, imposing and unfriendly to the street like the fortress it is? Certainly brick is an odd choice of building material for San Francisco. Heavy, rusticated exteriors and centralized interiors are a structural vocabulary which makes sense in Botta's native Switzerland, and his houses in the Alpine region of Ticino are justly celebrated for their beauty and functionality. But 3rd Street is no mountain path, and the glitzy, Space Museum feel of the soaring atrium lobby seems not only out of proportion, but out of place. The building looks more like the headquarters for some giant multinational corporation than a temple for the serene contemplation of art, and considering SFMoMA's massive new capital drive (to the tune of \$90-plus million), perhaps its blockbuster profile is not so inappropriate after all.

Gorgeous galleries

A great museum is as much about the viewer's procession through public space as about the art that's housed there. So permit me to walk you along the polished marble paths.

The entrance, a revolving door flanked by glass doors, is unspectacular. One is as tempted to visit the museum store or cafe, both of which dominate the street facade, as enter the museum proper. Consider the experience of approaching the entrance to the Metropolitan, those majestic steps, a truly great urban public space, and you get some idea of the lost opportunity here.

Inside, all architectural humility drops away. Here is what has been described as the "chic interior," the great, soaring atrium around which the entire museum is arranged. There's shopping and espresso drinks within arm's reach, but not a speck of art yet in sight. We might as well be in a "supermall" or the lobby of a bank: instinctively I look for the ATM machines.

Did I mention that the building is somewhat sexual? Walking up the grand staircase is like disappearing into a giant striped vulva. At the first landing you can peer over the side and wave to the peas-

ants in the "piazza" below like the Pope of Art.

The galleries are beautiful. All his opulence on show in the lobby, Botta doesn't let the building overwhelm the art. The museum's permanent collection is finally given room to breathe and looks mahvellous in skylit natural light. All sorts of unexpected and charming vistas beckon. The fourth floor Media Arts gallery is terrific, and the grand gallery on the top floor, where our Anselm Kiefer looms, is regal. Certainly this is a world-class exhibition space.

Local talent absent

More on the actual art in a later issue. The inaugural exhibitions, the multimedia *Public Information: Desire, Disaster, Document*, a show of William Klein's New York photographs, a display of the Botta design process, and showcases of recent acquisitions, are meaty and merit a separate discussion. For now, I will say that the absence of any exhibition of contemporary Bay Area artists - not even a broom closet is dedicated to this purpose - is glaring. It's wonderful that the museum has acquired David Dashiell's epic mural *Queer Mysteries*, as important a work as any recent gift. Unveiling it for the opening would have been a perfect recognition of the depth of talent in our community, and a fitting tribute to the artist, whose death from AIDS is still fresh in the memory. Would its display have scared off the benefactors? But the curators didn't shy away from presenting Larry Clark or Nan Goldin right off the bat.

In closing, a few tips to remember during your virgin visit to MoMA:

1. If you have any sort of fear of heights, when you cross the vertiginous pedestrian bridge across the central, er, shaft, *don't look down*.

2. Don't wear stripes. I made the mistake of wearing a jaunty sailor top to the press opening, and I was clashing all over the place. The distinctive brown-and-white striping characteristic of Ticinese architecture is now the "look" of 3rd Street.

3. Do wear your woollies. It's chilly, as a five story-high atrium can't be easy to heat.

4. Ignore bitchy cultural commentaries and go see for yourself. It's Art, it's good for you, you'll like it. ▼

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Upcoming
Opera Events

To tide opera lovers over until the fall season there are a number of events being offered at the War Memorial in connection with the 50th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations charter.

On May 18, the SF Opera is giving a concert performance of Gluck's *Orpheus et Euridice*. Music director Donald Runnicles is conducting Berlioz's 1859 edition of the score, "a composite of Gluck's original Italian and French versions," with Jennifer Larmore, Dawn Upshaw and Alison Hagley all making local debuts. (Why not simply do Gluck's original version with local countertenor Brian Asawa in the title role, a part in which he has received glowing reviews in Europe?)

A national tour of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* will give local performances with the SF Opera Orchestra May 24 through June 3. France's Opera de Lyon will make its United States debut with four performances of Prokofiev's *L'Amour des Trois Oranges* conducted by company music director Kent Nagano June 17-22, and Canada will contribute three performances of Benjamin Britten's *Noye's Fludde* (*Noah's Flood*) at the First Congregational Church on June 23 and 24.

Marilyn Horne will sing a concert on June 24 with singers from the San Francisco Opera Center with the opera orchestra and chorus. Part of the program will be the world premier of American composer William Bolcom's *A Whitman Triptych*, commissioned by the SF Opera for the occasion.

The Royal Ballet of Great Britain will present six performances at the Opera House June 28-July 2.

Patrons who order tickets before March 31 will receive a 10 percent discount off single tickets and 25 percent off when ordering three or more events.

—Paul Thomason

Different Light

Continued from cover

Different Light" is not intended to be an all-inclusive survey of lesbian and gay artists. In fact, not all of the artists represented are even gay-identified. Blake and Rinder intentionally left the artists' sexuality undefined, because the show explores queer influence on American art, and American artists' influence on queer art. Trying to separate who is queer from who is not, in these curators' view, is simply beside the point.

Since gay history has often been obscured, Blake and Rinder have made an effort to include historical works from generations past: a Marsden Hartley oil from 1932, for instance, or *Sailors Urinating*, a sublimely erotic Charles Demuth watercolor from 1930. But the emphasis is on post-Stonewall art and artifacts, and even such masters as Marcel Duchamp and the early Andy Warhol are included more for their pervasive influence than for election to any Hall of Fame.

From repression to liberation

Wisely, Rinder and Blake have arranged the show thematically rather than chronologically. Divided into nine groupings, the art moves from "Void" through "Self," "Other," etc., to a gay conception of "Family" and (my favorite gallery) "Orgy." The idea is that the progression from isolation to community echoes many gays' life voyages as well as the general trajectory, in gay history, from repression to liberation. It's conceptual.

Indeed, the entire exhibition often seems like an installation artwork itself - say, one by Nayland Blake. Constructed around the resonance of gay and lesbian experience, the show finds room for gayish items from popular culture: covers of *Smiths* albums, for example, or the unzippable *Sticky Fingers* album. The goods on display include vitrines full of vintage 'zines, physique pictorials, gay pride posters and buttons. In this cornucopia effect, the exhibit might be faulted for its ambition: it wants to be both gay archives and fine art show at once. But the pop culture souvenirs do add context, and the curators deserve credit for their intelligence and daring.

The procession of Big Names is dizzying, everyone from Louise Bourgeois, Richard Prince and Jasper Johns to Claes Oldenburg, David Hockney and Diane Arbus. The show's real strength, however, lies in its inclusion of Bay Area and younger artists: David Dashiell, Brett Reichman and John Priola, among others, contribute artworks that make major impressions. Hung alongside established heavies like Judy Chicago, Ross Bleckner or Robert Mapplethorpe, these emerging artists hold their own.

The parade of past and present art world stars is really something to behold: Eva Hesse, Carolee Schneeman, Nicole Eisenman. At times the gallery walls read like a Who's Who of recent American art, which is a problem. The inclusion of, say, Barbara Kruger and Jenny Holzer, both of whom have had extensive museum exposure, dilutes the relative impact of showing the underexposed Tee A. Corinne or Marlene McCarty. It's great to

see Jerome Caja up on museum walls again, or a small piece by Martin Wong, and the General



Nayland Blake

John Lennon cover? All the bases have been covered, the show is overdetermined.

But it's still the first and best gay art show we're likely to see in any museum for the foreseeable future. "In a Different Light" is smart, art-savvy and absolutely accessible. It's everything the new SFMoMA is not: multigenerational, generous to young and local artists, very gay. ▼

■ "In a Different Light" runs through April 9 at the University Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley. Wed.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thurs., 11 a.m.-9 p.m. \$6. (510) 642-0808.

In conjunction with the exhibition, UAM/PFA will offer gallery talks by the curators; a gala benefit, "Fabulous," Jan. 26, 7 p.m.; "Late Night with Joan Jett Blakk," Feb. 2, 8 p.m.; Video by Cecilia Dougherty, Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m.; Stuart Sherman's "Queer Spectacle," March 16, 8 p.m.; lectures by Jonathan Katz and Erica Rand, March 19, 2:30 p.m.; and play readings of Kevin Killian's "Cut" and Camille Roy's "The Rosy Medallions," April 2, 2:30 p.m. Call (510) 642-8734.



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PARTING GLANCES

Blow Buddies, Sat Nite 12/17 - About 2am. You: Awesome body-builder, dark complexion, light jeans. Me: blond, beard, jeans & chaps, eagle t-shirt. You enjoy sitting on stool in front of me. I went to take a break, but never found you later. I'd like to continue...EXT 4475.

Nobhill Cinema-Chinese - 12/8, We shared a booth. You-Chinese student, University. Me: Wht, mid 20s. Wish we had met under different circumstances. You're beautiful, physically and spiritually. I'm a writer, well educated, perfectly clean, not from SF. Lets try for something better. EXT 4434.

My Fair Lady 12/26 - Made eye contact outside Castro Theater before 1 pm show. You were walking by, I was waiting in line. We spoke briefly. You said you thought you recognized me. Me: about 5'8", long curly brown hair, brown eyes, wearing leather jacket. Would love to see you. EXT 4490.

Eric R.U. Back From Minn. - After you called saying you'd already booked a flight, I tried to contact you, but couldn't find your #. You said you'd be back around 12/30. I hope we can get together again. Robert. EXT 2000.

Buena Vista - Angela's papa, Robert, if you're a single parent please call Patsy's papa, Graig. EXT 2001.

Jay From Cow Hollow - We met on Lorie's shuttle, 12/23. You headed to Washington, me to Boston. Let's do coffee and more? EXT 2002.

Pasqua Tues. 12/27, 7:15pm - You: Young, curly brown hair, glasses. Me: Black leather jacket, br hair, goatee. We glanced at each other several times. After leaving Pasqua you took a detour around Collingwood Park, I never caught up. I'd love to meet you. EXT 2003.

Rumors, New Years Eve - Hayward. Sat near you, exchanged glances, intrigued by your handcuffs. I wore leather jacket. EXT 2033.

New Years Eve - About 4pm you boarded BART at 19th St. Oakland, strawberry blond hair, black leather jacket, disembarked

at Embarcadero. Me in rain gear w/ straight friend. would like to hear from you. EXT 2034.

12/31/94 - In front of Castro Street Station. Me: GBM, clean shaven, holding package and standing and talking w/ friend in green jacket. You: GWM, large mustache, mid to late 40s, dark hair, 5'10" to 6'. EXT 2035.

Thus 12/29 - 8:00 pm-ish, Castro/18th and again on Market. You reddish/blond short hair/beard. Me: brown leather jacket/white cap. Wanna talk? EXT 2051.

Zepata 12/3 - Missed your mailbox. please call. EXT 2052.

New Years Late B. Buddies - Saw you late 1/1/95 early Mon. morn. at Blow Buddies. You: wht, drk hair, blk tank top & jeans. Me: very attractive blk male. Our eyes met. You played w/ another, I touched your bottom, you squeezed my hand. When you were leaving I was out front. EXT 2080.

Buddies/Sept-Nov - You: Wht male, buzz cut, 5'0'clock shadow, 5' to 6' tall, always wearing wht tank top, flannel shirt, jeans, converse sneakers, or para-military boots.. Me: blk model type. We never got together but every time you play around, you look over your shoulder and I'm right there beside you. EXT 2081.

The Hottest Guy In Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

Eros 1/6 - You light br hair mustache. Me: drk hair mustache. You commented about me staying hard even after I came. Like to see you again. EXT 2082.

Steve @ Castro Walgreens 1/8 - We made eyes. We stood and talked for a minute I know you from the gym (muscle-system) back in '93. You've put on some weight & I thought you looked great. I wanted to ask you out, but I couldn't gather my nerve quick enough. Will you call? J.K. EXT 2083.

Van Ness Nautilus 1/8 Afternoon - You: GWM, short blond hair, mustache/goatee, working out w/ friend. Me: GWM, 6'1", mustache/goatee, looney tunes t-shirt.

We caught eyes all afternoon even in locker room. You're handsome. Call. I want at least one date. EXT 2084.

Badlands Sunday 1/1/95 - Todd, we enjoyed talking till closing and parted. I forgot to give you my number. Would like to meet again. You: 6'4", 32. Me: 5'9", 33. EXT 2085.

Folsom St. Fair 1994 - You were working at a booth selling teddy bears for an AIDS organization. Dark hair, mustache, hairy chest. Sexy, sweet. We flirted a little using the bears. Me: long br hair, br eyes, wearing leather jacket. Thinking of you. Let's get together. EXT 2086.

Yellow Rain Slicker - We met Sunday 1/8 at Folsom Gulch, then at City Entertainment. You blk hair parted in the center. I was wearing a black leather jacket. I would like to meet in a more sensual environment, please call. EXT 2104.

I'm Frustrated - Wasn't able to exchange names w/ handsome blond man sitting next to me in back row of Kabuki Theatre 2:10 showing of Immortal Beloved 1/1/95 Call me, Matt. EXT 2105.

Geoff - Just tell me why. Please call. Glenn. EXT 2107.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP M-M

Bi Cultural - 35yo Latin/Caucasian 5", 200#, w/ traditional looks seeks GM for friendship, romance and possible LTR. Sincere Only. EXT 4492.

New Year's Resolution - GAM 30 5'7", 140#, gd linc, compassionate, nice body, interested in foreign movies, language and science. Looking for someone nice to be life-long mate.(25-35yo, kind and fit) EXT 4477.

IBuff Body, Fierce Intellect - Black is always in style. Long term relationship offered by slightly demanding but completely endearing African American Prince. Witly, well-built, sharp-looking, late 30s professional!!!! Candidates must be confident, hunky, bright, career driven, ready-to-wear, cultured, gym fanatics w/ masculine style to match sensitive substance. Euro a plus! EXT 4476.

I Have a Bear Magazine Look - GWM 40, hairy, husky, balding, mustache. I'm 5'9" 195#, dark hair. I'm looking for guy 20-30 w/attractive boyish looks for poss LTR. I enjoy bicycling, nature, Sci-Fi, films & safe versatile sex. I'm HIV+ & good sense of humor. EXT 4478.

Guerneville Bottom Bear - WM, 46, heavyset, very hairy, gentle, creative writer. Seeks yngr, top, slender, smooth, clean shaven for LTR. EXT 4479.

The Hottest Guy In Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

Rus.Rvr Sorcerer Apprentice - Witch/Shaman, bearish, 40s, SKS, yngr guy w/ sincere interest in magic & the occult to share a joint exploration of magic & sex. Shy, inexp. OK. EXT 4480.

Filipino/Asian - Sought by vintage Italian male for companionship. Be serious/open minded. Sbjay area. EXT 4482.

That Missing Element - I'm a successful, self-emp, professional in Oak hills. I have a busy schedule, but committed to make time for a special partner in life. Me: 5'5", 125#, HIV-, enjoy warm cozy evenings at home, romantic outings, travel, stimulating conversation & lots of affection. You: GWM/GAM/GLM 35-45, in shape, HIV-, intelligent, well-educ., zest for life & desire for companionship. NS+. EXT 4483.

Are You Looking For Love? - I'm masculine GWM, 6ft, 190#, 40, healthy, HIV+, mustache, fairhair & skin. into homelife, film, photography, outdoors. I seek masculine, sensitive, black, Latin, Italian man. Interested in LTR. Let's talk. EXT 4491.

Wanted: Not Politically Correct - Seeks top GWM, smoker, drinker, gym avoiding. Not overly addicted and usually responsible. You are younger, than I, live in SF, almost clean shaven, smooth, & affectionate. Me: GWM, early 50's, 220#, 5'11", LTR-oriented romantic bottom. EXT 4481.

Not Endowed or Greek God - But a healthy, fit, open minded, stable, unaffected, nice guy, and a great bottom. We are both HIV-,

health, conscious, emotionally available, NS, ND, and I,m fair, smooth, youthful early 50's, and ready. EXT 4493.

Total Quality Man - Educated, attractive, successful, well built, out, secure, 28yo, GWM, would like to meet someone w/ similar quality (28-35). GWM who enjoys outdoor activities. EXT 4494.

Total Bottom - Wishes to be even more submissive to top GWM HIV+. Love raw sex. LTR possible. I'm GWM, early 50's, 5'11", 225#, love you sweet cum. EXT 4495.

Seeking Italians and Latinos - 18-40 who prefer or relate well to being w/ an attr. sexy romantic older gentleman, 71, 5'8", 160#, HIV-, for on going friendship in & out of bed. Honesty and sincerity a must! EXT 4496.

Steady Boy Wanted - To kick back receive total satisfaction from cool forties experienced dad. Videos provided. You be clean and sincere. Shy & inexperienced boys OK. EXT 2010.

Cute Buns Seeks Older Top - slim satin smooth youngster, 25, 6'1", 160#. New to USA have high intellect, seeks older sexy man 52+ who is very masculine, mature, romantic, classy and charismatic. EXT 4497.

Attractive, Fun-loving - 34yo, masculine, 5'11", chubby guy, looking for a masculine GWM for LTR. Call and let's chat! EXT 2006.

Seeking Friendship & Maybe More - Attractive, Latino, 29, seeks GWM 25-35, 5'6" 145#, dark hair, dark eyes, clean shaven, smooth body & professional. You: versatile, sincere, enjoy music, outdoors, NS, professional, call for date. EXT 2007.

Steady Boy Wanted - To kick back receive total satisfaction from cool forties experienced dad. Videos provided. You be clean and sincere. Shy & inexperienced boys OK. EXT 2010.

Tall, Lanky, GWM - 41, seeks sexual friend, 6'4", 163#, HIV-, gym devoted, light muscled, defined chest, hard stomach, moderately hairy, trim beard, dk hair, striking, wants occasional but continuous recreational sharing/not marriage, your place, married, other relationships OK. You are wht, late, mid 30s-mid40s, any height, HIV-, w/ good facial looks, regular exercised, physique, hard chest, lean waist. I'm masculine, sensitive, like kissing. EXT 2008.

No Wonder I'm Still Single - Relationship oriented WM, HIV-, 44, slightly overweight, average endowment but very handsome & kind, wants to live w/ & build a future w/ a slightly yngr, kinky WM under 6', 210#. Prefer smooth & cut 7+, smoke OK for now, JO enthusiast encourage, HIV+ considered, ND, Househusband OK. EXT 2009.

Fuck Puppet Wanted - Clean cut definite top seeks all American white boy bottom, thirties of younger for good time in and out of bed. should be attitude free, open to romance, and have a sense of humour. Lets talk! EXT 2011.

Attractive GWM, 33, 145# - 5'9", HIV+, healthy, professional, seeking GWM, 30-45 for LTR, enjoys romantic evenings, cuddling and hot tubs, ND,NS. EXT 2012.

Seeking Big Brother - Bi WM, 40s, HIV-, very clean, trim, warm and passionate. Love to service and be serviced, enjoy erotic home movies and possible making one together. Seeking big brother late 50 to 65, HIV-, clean, trim and hot and has his own love nest, SF or East. EXT 2013.

Good Looking Masculine Type - GWM 40, 6'1", 200, br/gr. Not into bar scene. 100% genuine, compassionate & fun loving. Exception

to what you have met. sks similar good looking masculine relationship oriented nice guy. EXT 2036.

Tights Fetish - Prof. GWM seeks friends in Bay Area who share my passion for nylon/leather lights & ballet/modern dance eroticism. Write! EXT 2038.

Romantic, Healthy, HIV+ - GWM prof, 38, br/bl, 6'2", 175, handsome top, seeks LTR w/under 40 in-shape cute prof, cleanhaven, NS/ND, masculine. Fun a must! EXT 2039.

Seek GWM 18-27 to Love/Live With - GWM, 50(Looks younger) would like to live w/ affectionate GWM as friend, companion, roommate, lover, jo body, to love & share life w/ in bay area. Seek LTR. Like to cuddle, am HIV-, 5'6", br/niz. EXT 2040.

Married GWM Seeks Friends - Out to life & new to area. Looking for sincere, honest, kind, trust worthy people with a sense of humor that like the same in their friends. Me: 30, 5'8", 155#, not into games, masculine, professional from Texas. I enjoy having a drink now & then & going out to clubs. I need friends to talk to & get out of the house every once in a while. I'm in the Eastbay Area. EXT 2037.

Gentleman Seeks Son - Prof. bottom son sought by 45, 6'2", 180#, HIV-, unpretentious, honest, romantic dad. You: smaller, younger, any race, fit, HIV-, interested in LTR only. EXT 2041.

Hungry Top - Seeks lean toned, hard tits and deep-cleaned hair crack that needs regular eating and heating up by a gdlyg, youthful 50's, very sexy, well-built top. Not brutal or raunchy. You're 35-55, NS, clean, in-shape, honest, reliable. Oral sex/safe jo. EXT 2042.

Pretty GWM Seeks Friend - I'm tall, slim, 26 w/ a nice face & smile. If you're a WM 25-40, gdlyg, tall, and healthy then maybe we should meet and see what happens. ND, EXT 2043.

Natural Top Wanted - I'm fun assertive/enthusiastic, healthy, HIV+, 34, 170#, 6'1", vry attractive face and body. I seek a similar butch guy who's taller. Let's share intel. conversation, music, satirical comedy, arts, local travel, romance, etc. EXT 2044.

Boy In White Briefs - Baseball Caps, Flannel Shirts, Coffee, Sex, Marines, Rain, Politics, Modern Rock, Country, Stability, Honesty, Camel Wides, Kissing, Romance! Are you interested? GWM, 27, 5'7", smooth body, clean cut. Seek single in Southbay, Peninsula. EXT 2053.

GWM 52 German Daddy Top - With big fat top prefers Mediter type leather/levi for Eastbay garden estate. EXT 2054.

Cute 24yo BM College Student - 5'6", 155#, stocky built seeks wht/italian males only bet 20-32 that are cute and handsome for a 1st time relationship. I'm not experienced, just be real, kind, intelligent, honest, serious, sincere, mature, HIV- and masculine. I'm also seeking friendship too! I'll get back to you ASAP. EXT 2055.

GAM Seeking GWM - SF, GAM, 5'11", 160#, seeking intelligent, thoughtful, humorous, romantic, mature, NS, ND, HIV-, no facial hair, height and weight proportionate GWM. EXT 2056.

Dynamic Committed, Deep Love Sensitive, caring, mature, educated, disabled guy invites spiritual, caring, athletic, adventurous, young, warm guy w/ a big heart & high self-esteem to enjoy deep loving committed monogamous relationship. EXT 2057.

HOT 51yo Waits For GAM - This hot 51yo GWM wants hot passionate times, and I enjoy being sucked until I am fully dry. 7 cock, A1 balls, sweet butthole. Ready for you. EXT 2058.

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Great Catch for U - Wanted: Hairy, tall (6'), masculine, in-shape, gdlng, GWM, 5'10", 190#, Gym body, NS/ND, moustache, genuine for dating and possible LTR. I am real. EXT 2059.

Funny, Sincere, Spontaneous - Black 6'4", neg, seeks, wnt for more than one nite. Long term one on one partnership wanted. Prefer in shape under 46 and 100% masculine a must. EXT 2094.

Rim/Oral Daddy - Seek 40 to older male that needs companionship, some one to stay with. GBM, 35y/o, 5'10", 190#, Teddy Bear needs honest, sincere, support from Daddy. EXT 2060.

Non-Masculine Longhair - Wanted by the same. Straight or Bi, has videos, long submissive suck slut & licker. Flexible couples, etc. ok. Must be cute! EXT 2061.

Looking For A Boyfriend - I'm 31 not gym built, love to laugh and love sex, 5'8", 160#. I smoke, I'm responsible and looking for someone who's a top, under 40, tall & real! If this is what your looking for, take a chance, call. EXT 2063.

Black 6'4", 31 - Seeks attractive Wm, 46, and under for dating - romantic adventures and possible relationship. Prefer sincere reliable human beings. EXT 2067.

Stunning BM Looking For WM - Looking for someone who's looking for the same as I. Masculine male w/ stunning looks great body, likes to workout, XX hung, vers. in bed, likes movies, reading, traveling, TV, hot sex, communication, honesty, commitment & trust a little bit of vanity4 show. EXT 2087.

GWM 30ish - Seeks GBM for friendship good times relationship. Me: 5'9", 185#, b/w/b, hairy chest, bubble butt. You: masculine well endowed open honest looking for heart-mind and soul not muscle I'm for you. EXT 2088.

Maul, Hawaii: HIV+ - GWM - Seeks friends and? I'm gdlng, 38, 5'5", 125#, short beard currently w/ moustache. Love life & people. Let's communicate. Hawaii is beautiful. EXT 2089.

Exotic, European-Asian - Seeks sexy Asian or Latins for friendship & gd times. I'm gym toned body, 160#, 5'11", healthy, HIV+, 45yo. You 20-40, gym toned. I'd like to meet you. EXT 2090.

Start 1995 Right! - GWM, 34, 6'1", 150# seeks hot man w/ sense of humor. Facial hair preferred. Let's do dinner, movies, romance, magic! EXT 2091.

Chunk, Kinky 50+ Daddy Sought - I'm 39, 6'1", 240#, & anxious to please. If you are considerate, and cuddly at first you'll get my best response. Otherwise very independent in bed. I take direction well. S/M, B/D, teach me new stuff! EXT 2092.

Are You a Top - Who prefers a partner who is masculine out of bed but all bottom in? I'm a together yng 50's GWM, slim fair, smooth, swimmer build, NS/ND. We are both HIV+, health conscious, very sexual & together types. EXT 2093.

Hung Black Dad, 40 - Seeks husky, mature, masculine, conservative men for discreet late afternoon and mid-evening. Eastbay pleasing. Masculine men only please. Calls respond 6am to 7am weekdays. Sincerity, honesty, guaranteed. EXT 2095.

I Have a Bear Magazine Look - GWM, 40, hairy, husky, balding, moustache. I'm 5'9", 195, drk hair. I'm looking for guy 20-30 w/ attr boyish looks for poss LTR. I enjoy bicycling, nature, Sci-Fi, films & safe versatile sex. I'm HIV+ w/ a good sense of humor. EXT 2096.

Need A Good Heart - GAM, 39, 5'5", 108, smooth. Excellent lover. Enjoy cuddling, kissing, sex, out

doors, politics, smoker. Prefer big, tall, under 45 for lover friendship. EXT 2097.

Open, Warm, Bright - 160#, student seeks guy under 30 for LTR. Into natural foods, archaeology, trav, cafes, massage, honest and friendship. Please be HIV+, NS/ND. EXT 2098.

Attr 25yo BM - 6'1", 220, football player build, seeks very attr Wm, 5'10", 170#, 6'4", 240#, well built, masculine only, 18-35. EXT 2062.

Good Looking Athletic Student - 23yo, student, good body, regular guy, into sport, outdoors, movies, animals. Looking for regular in-shape guy under 40 to date. EXT 2108.

Time to Get Serious - GWM, 35, professional, 6'4", attractive, great shape, relationship oriented, HIV+, I enjoy coffee in small cafes, pasta in loud bistros, Sunday morning brunch, travel near and far. Seeks tall, professional, NS, 28-39 EXT 2109.

Creative, Masculine, Euro-Profes - Attractive, in-shape, 33, 6', 175#, top, looking for a LTR w/ a bright young man (25-33). Bottomline: Brains and body. EXT 2110.

HIV+ Couple seeks 3rd For LTR - We are 28 and 40, healthy, attractive & versatile. One is 5'11", 190, br/wh, mod hairy, big build. Other is 5'10", 170, br/gr, hairy, med build. We are interested in meeting a HIV+ man to develop a 3-way LTR. EXT 2111.

Masculine GWM, 31 - Mostly masculine guy, 5'8", 150#, blond, tan, green eyes, sexually versatile. Enjoy outdoors, sports, biking, beach. Not into bar scene seeks similar masculine GWM, 28-35 Relationship. EXT 2112.

Asian Muscles - Romantic, sexual, monogamous, muscular Asian, looks 30's, 5'7", 150#, 40c, 30w, 14a, moustache, HIV-. Into film, TV, weights/aerobics, democrats, 501s, mutual body worship, it play, jo. NS/ND. I'd like to meet a muscular GM, 35-45, HIV-, similar physique and interests. EXT 2121.

Don't Read This AD - Unless you're committed to LTR based on health, affection, monogamy. We're secure, responsible, like weekend drink/dinner. HIV+ ok. GWM, 52, 5'11", 220#, seeks yngr SF top GWM for lifelong lover. EXT 2099.

SEEKING ADVENTURE M-M

Military Men? - I live alone and I'm discreet. I seek military men to meet. Cum relax and have a good time. Your secret is mine. EXT 4484.

Live Outside of SF? - I want to meet people who live outside of SF to visit. I'm seeking new adventures, new environments and new friends. EXT 4485.

The Hottest Guy in Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

Under 28? - Seeking younger buddies to share time w/. Looking for a new slant of life. I'm muscular, curious and 39yo. EXT 4486.

I'll Do Anything at Least Once - Gd Lgk, Wm, 25, 5'7", 145#, br/hzi seeks Wm under 35 for ideas and

action. You be gd lking and adventurous/creative. Couples, strat/Bi, kinky encouraged. It's worth a drive to Modesto. EXT 2030

Black Male Wanted - By attractive GWM, 25, blond, 5'8". We are both physically fit, masculine and HIV+. You: Top, Me: Bottom. EXT 4498.

Looking For Muscle Boy - Good looking GAM, 28, 5'10", 120#, seeks buff bodybuilders for body worship, bondage scenes. EXT 4499.

Fantasy Explorations - This 25yo GBM is seeking to explore light bondage, group scenes with 21-29yo. I'm 5'11", 170, great body, handsome, masculine and discrete. No disappointments here. EXT 4500.

Head at 5:30 am? - Well hung (91/2). East Bay black man needs a DLT expert who's available to service me at my place at 5:30 am weekday mornings. Experts only please. Have a man for breakfast. EXT 2018.

Jock Sucker - Masculine, bearded, sports minded, husky, HIV+, dad will service hot dudes on a regular basis. Live in south bay but will travel for right jocks. EXT 2020.

RU Uncut? - WM, boyish, 37yo, seeking intact guys for 69 erotic bondage. SM. UB: Fit, w/ht proportionate, top, or versatile. Uncut couple A+. EXT 2021.

Animals are Always Hungry - Let the animal in, you come out. I'm 35, a body builder, great looks, muscles and hot, hot deep throat that wants your huge cock to massage. Only huge dicks can satisfy this animals appetite. EXT 2022.

Total Oral Satisfaction - This masc clean cut attractive guy's mouth is hungry to expertly service the body, cock & balls of horny masc. guys in good shape, clean-cut. I like to receive long sensual oral service. EXT 2023.

Carnal Asian - Seeks other Asian. Great oral action on hot smooth bodies. 38, 5'8", 155#, Sensual, safe. All ages & marital status. EXT 2024.

Near SF State - Student? WM 21-35? Lay back to hot mouth, videos. Discreet & private. Days best. Try it I'm waiting. EXT 2025.

Hung Black Male 9" - Clean, uncult, 59yo, HIV-, 170#, wants submissive deepthroated expert cocksucker to suck cock & milk hot cum from my big balls. Erotic massage a turn on. Your looks important. Sincere please. Offer preferred. Leave name, #, & time to call. EXT 2014.

Cum Here - Hot hole seeks dark boss. Should be mature and well endowed. Enjoy complete service from thirsty talented tongue. Big hands a plus! EXT 2015.

Daytime Aggressive Sex Partner - I'm 33yo, 6', 160#, b/wh (not much left)/gr, fur beard, hairy 3 1/2 cut, great buns, versatile/bottom. Just looking for sex, not LTR. Into rough play, 3ways, role play. Can get into bare feel if chemistry is right. EXT 2016.

Service Me - Hot Italian ex-football jock seeks oral servicing on a regular basis. Cum freaks welcome. Call for detailed description. Long sessions preferred. EXT 2017.

Daddy-Just - Unzip - jack off in my mouth. Boy: ch shaven, eager, 33yr, GWM. EXT 2031.

Hitchhike For a Ride - Seek handsome, slender or muscular stud, great kisser to ride me like a sensual lover, ride me like a wild bronco w/ a cowboy's passion. I am 33, handsome Asian/Latino hunk, w/ defined muscular body, delicious smooth cute butt. Or maybe you want me to ride you? EXT 2032.

Looking For Older Men - To suck, not over 7' please!! Horny 52yo GWM, HIV-, loves to suck cock, then be fucked, slow & easy!! My place, San Rafael, CA EXT 2045.

Too Thin? - You are Asian. You think you are to thin, always trying to gain weight. Well I'm just crazy about really skinny Asians, I'm also a very nice guy. Call for details. Are you free tomorrow night? EXT 2046.

Daytime - Hot, hairy, GLM 38, 5'10", 160#, gym bod, thick, uncult, 7", already have LTR, seeking, GWM, 30-45, HIV-, trim build, for safe, discreet, weekday action, b/b, A+, SF only. EXT 2047.

Hung Couple - Two gdlkg 34yo WMs hung big (8+ and 9+). Seek others for group action. Prefer in-shape and hung guys. EXT 2048.

Spiritual and Passionate - GWM, 45, HIV-, 5'11", 190#, muscular, 6'2", uc, br/br, very hairy seeks, HIV-, G/Lk, jo or Latin for spiritual, intellectual & physical stimulation. EXT 2049.

Hung Big - Hot 6', 34, 155#, gdlkg, all-American collegiate type w/ gym toned body, hung big seeks other gdlkg guys hung as big (or bigger?) EXT 2050.

Palo Alto Area - Extremely young 38, WM, 5'9", 150#, br/br, 8'cut, works out, clean-shaven, smooth chest, HIV- seeks other in-shape Penisula guys, any race 25-40, HIV-, cut, smooth chest, muscular for sensual massage, & hot, safe, mutual jo. EXT 2068.

Lengthy jo, Dirty Talk Scene - Oakland solely into heavy, intense mutual HIV- talk, jo while getting fucked up (share costs) my place late pm. No shaved cocks, or video watcher, we watch each other only. Not a fuck/suck/touch type. Age, size, looks, race, unimp. EXT 2069.

New Yor Rican - 30, golden brown seeks Puerto Rican, Cuban, or Italian, under 35 for Latin Passion. Gay/Bi/or experimenting OK. Tatts are hot but not a must. EXT 2070.

One-Stop Shopping - Just a place late 40's not BB tall GWM, HIV-, top looking for GWM bottom 25-50 w/ cut fiddle for oral service & butt service w/ hard aver. plunger. EXT 2071.

Toys, FF, Videos - Black male, 35, seeking FF, man, any race, leather OK, mutual a plus, for hours of fisting w/hands & toys your place. Me: 59, 160#. EXT 2072.

Looking For Asian Boytoy - 18-30, in shape, passive, kinky, bottom, into having his mouth, ass & tits used by a very handsome, in-shape 44yo Sicilian BB. EXT 2073.

Secret Meetings - Vers, GWM, Hot & Hung seeking, under 30 GAM, GWM, GLM, vers, horny & smooth, T/B, CBT, WS, B/D, LT & M. I am 52 good bod, 8' cut big hangers, cum freak, vanilla or kinky cum over to my place for hot fun and sex! Any eve/nite! EXT 2074.

Attrac GBM, Seeks Hairy Husky - Attractive GBM, 40s, 5'10", 165#, HIV-, smooth, body, coffee & cream skin, seeks GWM 45 to 65 w/ a big thick dick that loves to be serviced for hours. p.s. you will not be sorry. (smile) EXT 2075.

Classic Little Guy - Big dick. Do you suck? Can you talk (intelligent) when your mouth isn't full? Are you ready for something different? So call. EXT 2076.

Big Irish Dick - Long on charm likes slow warm service after work-out and shower. Evenings and weekends are best. Handsome and hung, this professional is looking for first class service in SF on a regular basis. Call for description. Let's talk. EXT 2100.

Hot Tongue & Cock - Well built WM, 5'11", hung big, needs in-shape WM, hairy body w/ a big firm hairy bubble butt to tongue fuck & fuck. EXT 2113.

Mutual Tit Play - Tall, fit, GW, late forties, healthy, HIV+, seeks fit man of color for mutual tit play, jo, possible double headed dildo action. EXT 2114.

Hairy Hunk seeks Smooth Hunk - For jo, body worship, oral w/condoms. Very well-toned GWM, 5'5", 135#, br/br, chiseled pecs, Italian-looking, HIV-, 34, NS/ND, nice guy, versatile, good imagination, responsible. Seeking slim, gym-toned GWM whard body, 25-40. Your place in SF. EXT 2115.

Sex = Exploring Fantasies - GWM, 32, 5'9", 160#, well built gym bod, xx-handsome, tight ass, flat stomach, 29" waist. In nonsexual LTR. No barscene/Bartalk more efficient. ISO occasional hot sex w/ bodybuilders only: 5'10"+, 185#, 6b arms/pecs/balding A+! EXT 2116.

Older Guy To Satisfy Imaginative - Sensitive, Bi-sexual. No sugar daddy, please. HIV+, attractive, fair complexioned, 6', trim, 34. EXT 2120.

FETISHES

Your Strap-My Ass - Your paddle-my butt. Get the idea? I'm 36, 6'2", gym tones, HIV-. Experienced older bigger men welcome but not mandatory. I like it rough. 3ways? EXT 4487.

Your Ass Will Sizzle - Ass massage-like spanking. Spanking will stimulate nerve endings you never knew you had. Me: Attrac. GWM 6'5", 44, 280#, football players build. You: Attrac, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth, to mod body hair, nice buns, You need it bad! EXT 4473.

The Hottest Guy in Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

Deepthroat FFB - Suck, fist, suck, fist all day/night long, creedy to the root cs, insatiable A1 asshole. Topfist, topcock. Fit, 59, 5'11", 165#, beard, tatts, sling. Your: any age, race, size. EXT 4501.

Your Boots, My Crotch - Erotic boots & leather rubbing and play sought by handsome healthy and muscular 33yo GWM. You must be H/W prop. good looking, 18-35, and healthy. Cowboy, Biker, English Riding, Black Leather Chaps, Gloves A++ EXT 4502.

Lover of Barefeet Seeks Same - I'm sensually/sexually aroused looking at, kissing, smelling, licking, caressing clean barefeet in reciprocal action and JO. I love all over body play. Masc. gdlkg, GWM, 5'9", trim, hirsute, HIV-, N/A, ND. LTR possible. E Bay area preferred. EXT 4503.

Pecwork - I'm looking for the biggest hardest muscular pecs in SF to massage & eat. Call for description. EXT 2101.

Need Old Fashioned Spanking - Over the knee of a dominant & caring man 41yo. I need your firm hand on my round butt. spank me in my pants, my jockeys, & on my bare bottom w/ my pants & shorts pulled down. Men in uniforms, & suits a+. Paddles OK. UR 30-yrs. EXT 2026.

Nice Feet/Dick Slave - Yng looking late 40s, NS, foot fetish, seeks only dominant nice footed men. I'll

grovel, massage, lick & worship feet & cock as told. Eastbay preferred. EXT 2027.

The Hottest Guy in Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

Tired of the Same Ole Shit? - Do you dig heavy macho intense dirty talk, but are sick of phone sex? Do you dig jo but meet fuckers/suckers? Like buddy to buddy action but meet top bottoms? Do you dig getting wasted but meat NS? Lets party at my place (Oakland) late pm. EXT 2077.

I Want to Watch! - You alone w/ another or in a small group possible join in or not, your decision. Very discreet, have my own place. Call for my description and more info. EXT 2102

My Face, Your hairy Butt - Gdlkg, very masculine, 45yo, 5'11", 190#, mustache, HIV-, very masculine. Furry bubble butt & stocky legs. If this is a turn on, we should talk. No reciprocation req. EXT 2103.

Ass Massage/Light Spanking - Light spanking will stimulate nerve-endings you never knew you had. Me: Attrac. GWM 6'5", 280#, football players build, 44. You: Attrac. GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth-moderate body hair w/ nice buns. You need it bad. EXT 2117.

Dominant Medical Man - Sought by attractive WM for intense ER Room scenes + BD & other provocative schemes. Me: Mid 40's 178# clean cut business type, HIV-. You: Professional, HIV-(a must), 40-55, sick mind at nite, social in daytime. EXT 2118.

COUPLES

Looking For Young Couples - Looking for couples in good shape & good looking. Me: 30, 5-9, 160#, while trash. You: two, (three) about the same, Latino's a+. Must be safe & responsible. EXT 2028.

You, A Mature Couple - Attr, pass, clean shaven, responsive, HIV-, yng 50 Englishman, seeks opportunity to warm up Anglo American relationships on occasional get togethers and enjoy 1995. EXT 2029.

East Bay Bear Couple - Stable(18yrs), 50&40, both bearded, husky, and HIV-, seeks contact w/ masculine, honest real men(age, race, looks, size unimportant) for friendship and/or safe sex. Eastbay preferred. Pluses: hairy, mature, blue c collar types. EXT 2119.

OTHER

Discreet Encounters - GAM, 30, 5'7", 130. Seeks discreet times w/ attorneys who are masc., clean cut/shaven. I'm discreet. Very safe & easy to get along w/. PM encounters. EXT 4488.

Castro Halloween Photo - You took our photo: One man w/ a garland of flowers on his head, another w/ a bridal veil. My friend has died and I would like a print. Call. EXT 4489.

Free Quality Massage - For cute young studs who take good care of themselves. I'm 6'2", 175#, 40, gdlkg, masculine. Come stretch out on my table for a safe pleasurable experience. Sincere only. EXT 2004.

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this week

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Deadline is the Thursday
before issue date.

F 20

All Across the Table

Bernadine Mellis and Jodi Berggren: words, dance, songs. \$5-7. 8pm. Luna Sea Women's Performance Project, 2940 16th St., #216C. **863-2989.**

Before and After: Images of Surgery

Photographs by May Mantell. Thru 2/9. Figure 5 Gallery, 3491 19th St. **641-8042.**

Big Jesus Trash Can

Barry McGee, Melissa Pokorny, Caitlin Mitchell-Dayton and four other artists work in a decaying gallery. Reception tonight, 6-9pm. Thru 2/26, call for times. Victoria Room, 180 6th St. **255-0364.**

Scott Capurro

SF gay comic, with Ray James. \$10. Fri. & Sat. 9 & 11pm. Punchline, 444 Battery St. **397-7573.**

E Festival

Dancers' Group/Footwork presents Nesting Dolls Dance Co., SQUAD, Wells & Hermesdorf Dance Co. \$10 advance, \$12 door. 8pm. 3221 22nd St. **824-5044.**

The Europeans

"Struggles to Love," U.S. premiere of Howard

Barker's play, presented by SF Theater Workshop. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 2/5. \$12. 450 Geary Theatre Studio. **673-1172.**

Frankie and Johnny in the Claire de Lune

Terrence McNally's courtship drama. Thurs.-Sat. thru 1/27. 8pm. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa St. **771-3922.**

Jerry Halliday

"And His Big Bad Broads," puppeteer-impressionist cabaret. Fri. & Sat. thru 2/11. \$15. 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. **861-8972.**

The Joy of Gay Sex

John Fisher's play about sex and sexual politics in an extended run. Fri.-Sun. \$12. 8pm. Bayfront Theatre, Bldg. B, Fort Mason. **776-8999.**

Karla and Griff

Darkly humorous portrait of obsessive lesbian love, directed by Adele Prandini. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3 & 7pm thru 2/11. \$12-18. Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. **861-5079.**

Last of the Suns

A former general in the army of Chiang Kai-shek celebrates his 100th birthday in the San Fernando Valley. Tues.-Sun. thru 1/27. \$17-21.50. 8pm. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley. **(510) 845-4700.**

The Last Yiddish Poet

A Traveling Jewish Theatre's new production. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 2/26. \$12-15. Project Artaud, 2800 Mariposa St. **399-1809.**

MAX

Join the Men's Associated Exchange for afterwork cocktails. 6-9pm. The City Club, 155 Sansome St., 10th fl. **442-1994.**

Oedipus and the Gospel at Colonus

Sophocles' tragedy, musical

directed by Lamont A. Coleman. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 4pm thru 2/15. \$14. Egypt Theatre, 5306 Foothill Blvd., Oakland. **(510) 276-3538.**

Omnicircus

Theatre Concrete opens its multimedia robotic installation. \$5. 7-10pm. Theatre Concrete, 550 Natoma St. **621-4068.**

Orestes

The ancient Greek drama reinterpreted by Charles L. Mee, Jr. Wed.-Sat. thru 2/11. \$13. Norse Auditorium, 275 Hayes St. **861-4608.**

101 Humiliating Stories

New York standup actress Lisa Kron performs anecdotes such as "Geeky Celebrity Encounters." Wed.-Sun. thru 1/29. \$12. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

Pacific Sticks

Percussion ensemble performs Mozart, Scarlatti, more, free. 12:15pm. Star Classics Recital Hall, 425 Hayes St. **552-1110.**

A Partridge Family Friday the 13th

The Sick and Twisted Players reprise their '70s camp extravaganza. Fri. & Sat. thru 1/28. \$8-15. 8pm. Bernice St. Playhouse, 21 Bernice St. **826-5358.**

Kathy Rice-Grimm

Paintings of nudes, pastels and works on paper. Fri.-Sun., 12-5pm, thru 1/29. Artists Gallery, 4076 19th St. **626-2070.**

Scenes From My Love Life

Nine gay men in search of intimacy: Ronnie Larsen's hit comedy. \$15. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 1/28. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. **861-8972.**

Triton Contemporary Art Fair

Over 35 galleries from across North America show paintings, sculpture, photography and conceptual

works. Fri. 1-8pm, Sat. & Sun. 12-6pm. Hotel Triton, 342 Grant Ave. **394-0500.**

We Care Bay Area

Benefit for AIDS service organizations: singer Courtney Brown, musical group Fundi & Good Company, others. \$20. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **821-4124.**

Wind

Dancer-choreographers Eiko & Koma perform to the accompaniment of all-male vocal ensemble Chanticleer. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm. \$16-20. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. **392-4400.**

SA 21

ArtReach

Art for non-profit HIV/AIDS organizations. Opening reception tonight, 6-9pm. Tues.-Sat., 12-6pm thru 1/28. Life Conference Center, 1675 California St. **206-0933.**

E Festival

Dancers' Group/Footwork presents Knee Jerk Dance Project, Linda Carr and Underbelly Dance-Theater Beast. Sat. & Sun. \$10 advance, \$12 door. 8pm. 3221 22nd St. **824-5044.**

Gay Comedy Night

Scott Silverman, Karen Ripley, Suzy Berger. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

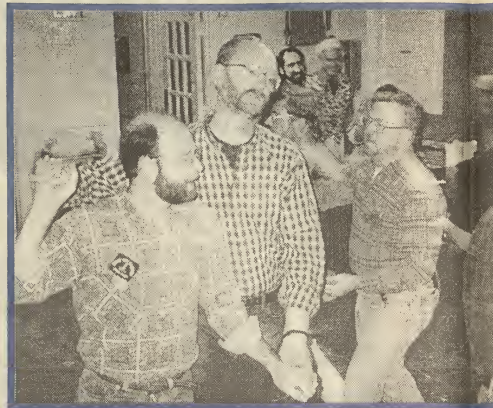
Some Nice Girls from Catholic School

Women from the MA writing program at USF explore sex religion, swimming. \$5-10. 8pm. Luna Sea, 2940 16th St. **863-2989.**

SU 22

Angels in America

Millennium Approaches alternates with *Perestroika*, Tony Kushner's big A play. Benefit for Aris Project tonight: call (408) 293-2747



x167. 7:30pm Tues.-Sat.; 1:30pm Wed., Sat., Sun thru 4/2. \$13-45. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter St. **749-2ACT.**

Beer and Soda Bust

Featuring the Gold Dust Trio, Upfront and PMS, benefits Home Care Aides, Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. \$8. 3-6pm. SF Eagle, 398 12th St. **626-0880.**

Flaming Joan

The Jon Weaver Entertainment Project presents premiere of dance performance about woman warrior, cross-dressing saint Joan of Arc. Sun. & Mon. thru 2/13. \$5-15. 8pm. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. **863-9834.**

GAWK

The Gay Artists and Writers Collective seeks videomakers, publishers, musicians to join its weekly meetings, Sundays at 2:30pm. **731-2424.**

Henry V

Trinity Shakespeare Company production. Sun. at 2pm. Mon.-Wed. at 7:30pm thru 2/15. \$10. 450 Geary Studio Theatre. **972-8063.**

Opening Hearts and Minds

An evening with Quaker activist lesbian grandmother Bonnie Tinker. 7pm. New SF Meetinghouse, 65 9th St. **(408) 336-8333.**

Nicholas Yankosky

Photography: fashion, portrait, nude and still life. Thru Jan. at Josie's, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

M 23

Art at Pancho Villa

Photos by Biron and Mary Eichler, paintings by Muriel Schneps. Thru 2/3 at Pancho Villa, 3071 16th St. **558-0658.**

Gay Comedy Open Mike

M.C. Suzy Berger. Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

Curtis Otto

A modern expressionist's paintings of the human form, thru Jan. Stimulate, Market & Noe. **626-5410.**

Personality

Cabaret debut of Diana Scheehan, with Michael Horsley on piano. \$10. 8pm. The Plush Room, 940 Sutter St. **885-2800.**

Singing Fools

New musical comedy featuring vocal trio "The Jesters." Wed.-Sun. thru 2/4, call for times, \$14-\$18. Willows Theatre, 1975 Diamond Blvd., Concord. **(510) 798-1300.**

Winter Group Show

Works by Paul Cadmus, Randall Lake, Jennifer Li and others. Thru 1/28. Mon.-Fri. 10am-5:30pm, Sat. 10am-5pm. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post St. **441-1138.**

Richard Wood

Bay Area dance photographer projects portraits of dancers onto found stone surfaces. Exhibits thru January. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes St. **864-7654.**

TU 24

The Art of Star Wars

Models, paintings and artifacts used in the epic film trilogy. Tues.-Sun., 11am-6pm, Thurs. til 8pm. \$8. Center for the Arts Galleries, 701 Mission St. **978-ARTS.**

Foggy City Dancers

Gay & Lesbian Square Dancing, free introductory new Wed. 7:30pm. Live Oak School, 117 Diamond St. **905-4546.**

Grease!

Tommy Tune's production includes Sally Struthers and Davy Jones. Tues.-Sun. thru 2/5, call for times. \$15-60. Golden Gate Theatre, Golden Gate & Market St. **776-1999.**

Keith Haring

Exhibition of original artwork. Thru Jan. Martin Lawrence Gallery, 465 Powell St. **956-0345.**

Journeys into the Interior

Photographs of rural life by Jock MacDonald. Also: work by Howard Schatz, Joan Myers. Mon.-Sat. 9am-6pm thru 1/28. Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission St. **621-2107.**

Josef Koudelka

Rare vintage photographs by Czech master. Tues.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm thru 2/25. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary St. **421-0122.**

Kurdistan

"In the Shadow of History" and "When Borders Bleed: The Struggle of the Kurds," exhibitions about the largest ethnic group in the world without a nation. Tues.-Sat. 12-5pm thru 1/28. SF Cameraclub, 70 12th St. **621-1001.**

Lavender Lounge

Gay/lesbian TV show features new segment, "Wenda Watch White Trash Cooking Show." Tuesdays, 10pm. Cable Channel 47. **337-4921.**

Manufacturing the Found Object

Group exhibition, works by Steve Briscoe, Tomas Nakada, others. Reception tonight, 6-8pm. Wed.-Fri.,



Photo: Lynn Dean

Members of Foggy City Dancers promenade their partners, **SEE TUES**

The Bob Dalpe Dinner Show

Suave crooner performs with the Susan Chen Trio, every Wed. in Jan. \$2. 7pm. Cafe Du Nord, 2170 Market St. **851-5016.**

Fruit Punch

Queer radio celebrates 21 years on the air. David Lambie hosts, features Daniel Curzon and Jon Sugar. 7pm. KPFA, 94.1 FM. **(510) 841-2525.**

Gay Skate

Rink full of queers on roller-skates. \$5 includes skates rental. 8-10:30pm. Rolladium Roller Rink, 363 North Amphlett, San Mateo. Info: **96-SKATE.**

Great Women in Blues

The Bay Area Blues Society presents world class blues. Weds. in Jan. \$3. 8:30pm. Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market St. **861-5016.**

Natural Happy Disaster Bargain Days

An installation by Laura Hartwick, with "Even If Such an Object Outside Us Were Unimportant," an installation by Scott MacLeod. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm, thru 2/3. Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama St. **863-2141.**

Old Glory, New Story

"Flagging the 21st Century," an exhibition of American flags redesigned by 75 artists. Tues.-Sat. 12-6pm thru 2/4. Capp Street Project, 525 2nd St. **495-7101.**

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead

A.C.T.'s production of Tom Stoppard's *Hamlet* satire. Tues.-Sat. at 8pm, Wed. & Sat. at 2pm, Sun. at 3pm thru 2/5. \$13-39. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason St. **749-2ACT.**

Talking Pictures

"People Speak about the Photographs that Speak to Them" exhibits thru 3/12. Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. **495-7000.**

Too Beautiful for Words

Twenty visual artists celebrate sensual enjoyment. Tues.-Sat. 11am-6pm thru 2/2. Bucheon Gallery, 355 Hayes St. **863-2891.**

TH 26

Bingo!

Gay bingo benefits Coming Home Hospice, every Thurs. \$12. 6pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. **241-0425.**

Fabulous!

Party celebrating "In a Different Light" exhibition at University Art Museum. \$250. 7pm. UAM/Pacific Film Archive, 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley. **(510) 642-3762.**

Lesbian Adventure Stories

Contributors to new anthology Mikaya Heart, Lucy Bledsoe and others read. \$3-10. 8pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. **821-4676.**

Men and Other Fun Stuff

Chip Hroncich, thru 1/31. Castro Station, 456 Castro. **824-3838.**

New Works in Photography

Curated by SFMOMA photography doyenne Sandra

Phillips. Thru 2/4; call for gallery times. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia St. **626-2787.**

On the Walls

An exhibition of graffiti curated by Tracy Clark. Artists include Spie, Element, Quest, Bles. Also: Five Photographers from Guadalajara. Thurs.-Sat., 12-5pm thru 2/2. Belcher Studios Gallery, 69 Belcher St. **626-8917.**

Prosthetic

Connell Ray Little, Holly Perdue, 10 others. Thurs.-Sun., 1-6pm thru 2/16. Push, 532 Natoma St. **487-1669.**

Rush Limbaugh In Night School

Charlie Varon plays the chubby right-wing radio personality. Thurs.-Sat. at 8:30pm thru Jan. \$10-15. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St. **641-0235.**

SF Art Fair

44 international galleries presenting works by young artists. Jan. 26-29. Phoenix Hotel, 601 Eddy St. **291-8911.**

Women Who Stand Up

Women stand-up comics, straight and gay. Thursdays. \$4. 8pm. Cats Grill and Alley Club, 1190 Folsom St. **972-8047.**

Yellow Peril

Installation by Huang Yong Ping uses a military landing craft and 50,000 locusts. Tues.-Sat. 12-6pm thru 3/4. Capp Street Project, 525 2nd St. **495-7101.**

"Sister Machete, Limelight" by SKID Photography, shows at the Hotel Triton Contemporary Art Fair,

SEE FRI

This Week's Dinner Specials



Nonna's Oven-Roasted Chicken with rosemary-garlic marinade, fresh vegetables & rice.....7.95

All-American Meatloaf with real mashed potatoes & gravy.....7.95

Chicken-Fried Steak with country gravy, veges & potatoes.....6.95

Chicken Stroganoff—with marsala wine, mushrooms & sour cream, served over fettucini.....8.75

Pepper Steak—grilled N.Y. steak with cracked black pepper & brandy sauce, served with fettucini.....12.50

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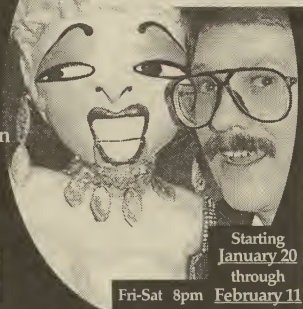
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MR. MARCUS

D.C.'s Joe Morris Wins Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather

Close to 1,500 leatherpeople converged on Washington D.C. last weekend to help the Centaur MC celebrate its 25th anniversary and to witness the selection of Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather.

Unlike last year at this time, which found the East Coast in a deep freeze, the weather this year hovered in the 60-70 degree range. All around the capital's gay haunts, shorts and T shirts prevailed. There were the usual parties and food feasts at various venues, and Jose Ucles' Dungeon Dance VI was a sell-out affair. It was hot!

Twelve contestants went through the mandatory pre-judging with 25 points being awarded for the interview, 20 for formal leather wear, 30 for attitude and personality, and 25 for jock wear.

The Centaurs on Sunday used three emcees for the proceedings at Tracks bar - Frank Nowicki, Kerry Richard and Dan Noel. In between the contestants' onstage appearances, "Lurch" brought the house down and garnered a standing stomping ovation for his comedic efforts. Ms. Foggy Bottom was well received, as was Pussy Tourette. The 49ers game commenced on TV during the final moments of the contest and the 49er faithful were dashing back and forth between the TV lounge and the stage.

The new Centaur officers: Re-elected Prez John Rocco; J.P. Halford, Veep; Secretary Jim Wright; Tribune Jim Sprada; Road Captain Bill Collision; and Centurion Bailey Walker.

After a historical recap of the Club's efforts by Al Santora and awards to various dignitaries, the moment of truth arrived for the 12 contenders. Second runner-up Randy Calkins of N.Y.; first runner-up, Andy Borden of N.Y.C.; and the winner, Washington's own Joe Morris. Apparently the crowd was in tune with the judge's decision. Joe presides over the Spartan MC and is a popular man about town. The other contestants were Bruce Miller, Randy Martin, Tony Golladay, Travis Lewis, Paul Bohli, Chad Ellis, Richard Tirado, Robert Guenther and Shawn Goodman.

It was another action-packed weekend with the weather cooperating and hordes of hot leathermen having a great time. Thanks Centaur MC and congratulations on your 25th anniversary. It was, as always, a sterling event. See you there next year?

■ ■

Since I was in Washington D.C. all weekend I missed most of the local action. Wednesday night, GRUF magazine staged its premier issue party at



Photo: Mr. Marcus

President of the Spartans MC of Washington (and also a resident), Joe Morris prevailed over all the contestants to win the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather Title last Sunday, Jan. 15. He will compete at IML in Chicago next May.

the Lone Star Saloon. It must have been very frustrating for barbers to see so many beards, moustaches and goatees on hand to welcome the newest fetish magazine. No doubt they had to keep their pinkie shears at bay.

Thursday night, Jan. 12, Don Thompson emceed



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather finalists (L to R): second runner-up Randy Calkins (Albany NY), Joe Morris, the winner, and first runner-up Andy Borden of New York City.



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather '94 Richard Benoit (R.) was subjected to "Sunflower Shenanigans" by co-emcee Frank Nowicki just before the winners were announced in Washington, D.C. last Sunday, Jan. 15.

the first Bare Chest Contest (Mr. January) for the 1996 calendar at the Eagle. There were six contestants and the judges were Rico Cogan, Brian Gronlund and Robb Esmonde.

When the inquisition by the emcee and judges was over and the scores counted, Mr. January 1996 on the Bare Chest Calendar was selected. He is Devin MacLachlan. Jerry Michael Young was runner-up, and the other contestants were Barry Rogers, David Lee Maze, Armin Lindegger and Lawrence Zeitsoff.

Aside from those two functions, I missed everything else, however, between sessions at the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather contest I did see most of the 49ers/Dallas game. All I can say is that it was so sweet seeing a photo of Emmitt Smith and Alvin Harper in tears after their humiliating defeat via Neon Deon and blaming the mud at Candlestick for

their ineptitude! Harrumph!

The Dish-covery channel

It's confirmed! Former San Franciscan Vern Stewart will be producer of the American Leather

Man/Woman contests in D.C.

Outgoing Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather Richard Benoit was accorded a sunflower caper minutes before he sashed his successor onstage with flashing sunflower lights, fans, rugs, a parasol, pins, pendants, a sunflower seed pack and, of course, a tiara! These proceedings infused lots of camp into the event and had the audiences in stitches. Thanks Richard for a fun year and much success for your presidency of C.O.M.M.A.N.D. (Cause Our Man Makes A Nice Daddy).

As for our 49ers, was there ever any doubt? But San Diego? An all-California Super Bowl! Go Niners! ▼

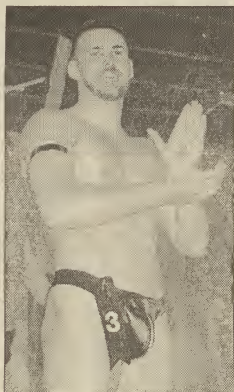


Photo: Mr. Marcus

Standing at 6'7" and over 200 lbs., New York's Andy Borden advanced from his second runner-up spot last year to the first runner-up spot this year at the Mid-Atlantic Leather contest.



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Affairs to Remember

Friday, Jan. 20

Nevada's first representation at IML in Chicago will be chosen tonight at Bad Dolly's in Reno. Presented by the Silver State Leather Association.

Fri.-Sun., Jan. 20-22

Stormy Leather on Howard Street has a big remodeling sale going all weekend. Anything you buy will qualify you for a \$200 gift certificate. Get there and buy!

Saturday, Jan. 21

A celebration of life for Alan Selby's Johnnie Boy Garcia at the SF-Eagle, 1900-2100.

"Buyer's Guide to Leather Gear" is the subject of the Ring's seminar with Grant Dupont, manager of A Taste of Leather, 1300-1500. Call (415) 522-9697 for location and price.

SF Dyke Daddy Contest, beer bust, 50/50 raffle and fantasy show by outgoing Tina Carroll from 2000 to 2300 for only \$7. Be there!

Sunday, Jan. 22

No press release from whomever is doing the SF-Eagle beer bust today. Play it by ear.

Thursday, Jan. 26

Ms. Leathermasters Pat Baillie and Mr. San Jose Leather Kevin Roche want to meet and greet you at the MCC Social Hall. Dinner begins at 1900, after which the video of their winning contest will be shown. The festivities continue with a beer bust at Greg's Ballroom at 2100. It'll cost ya \$5 for the individual events or \$8 for both.

Weekend, Jan. 27-28

In Columbus, Ohio, they'll be picking Mr.

Ohio Valley Leatherman at a contest being held at the Columbus Eagle. If you're in the vicinity, drop by and see the show and say hi to owner Todd Anglin.

They're also picking Mr. Leather Los Angeles at the LA-Eagle tonight, and the LA Leatherfest goes on all weekend with most of the action at the Faultline.

Saturday, Jan. 28

Mr./Ms. International Cheeks and Chaps present "Cabaret '95" at Most Holy Redeemer Bingo Hall, a musical review with so many acts I can't list them all here. Tix are \$10 at A Different Light, MCC or at the door. The fun starts at 2000. See your title holders at work raising money for the MCC HIV Program.

Tuesday, Jan. 31

Chinese New Year begins (Year of the Pig!) and culminates with the New Year's Parade in Chinatown on Saturday, Feb. 11.

Saturday, Feb. 4

Cal Eagles MC celebrates its 11th anniversary with an invitation only/overlay party on the SF-Eagle patio.

Choosing Mr. Seattle Leather at Neighbors bar in Seattle tonight, chaired by Karen Taylor, Ms. Washington State Leather. Details coming.

Weekend, Feb. 17-20

Bears of SF's three-day "Bear Rendezvous" at the Ramada Hotel on Market. International Mr. Bear will be chosen Sunday evening.

Choosing Mr. Leather of Portland (Oregon), with all sorts of fun and games in the City of Roses. More details coming. ▼

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Mouth Off About Movies

Due to space limitations, we were not able to run all the responses we received to our recent request for readers' picks of the best and worst movies of '94 ("Mouth Off About Movies," Jan. 5), but here are a few sample responses:

Roman Polanski's *Bitter Moon* was one of the best films of 1994. It's sad that few people, especially tired film critics, got the point. That's because it was so subtly and intricately woven into the script. The film was really a comedy, not a drama. Black at its heart, *Bitter Moon* was so intelligent, satirical and witty that it disguised itself a little too well, leaving its faded-love-turns-to-anxiety (and then resentment) message to be deciphered by only the most discerning viewers, who, obviously, are not most film critics.

Sheridan Whitesides
Daly City



Bitter Moon

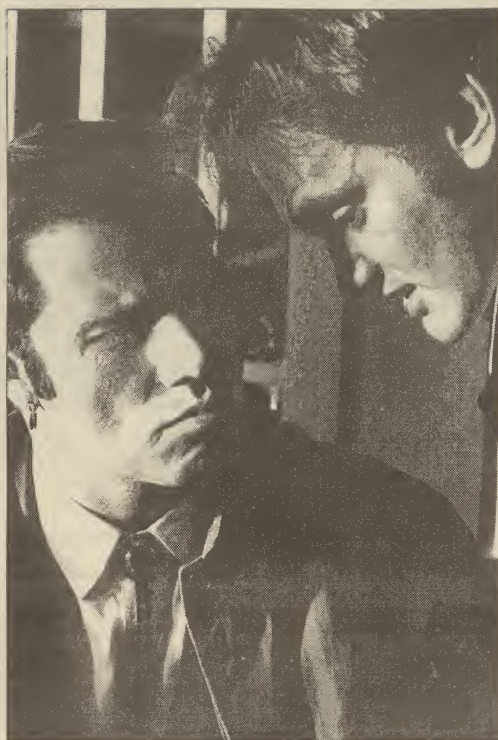
Three friends and I are the only people I know who actually like *Pulp Fiction*. I recommend it only as a film to be studied; it is not otherwise entertaining. There is enough violence in the world without having to devote two-plus hours to watching contrived violence.

A movie is like reading a book. Where books can be terri-

bly violent, its violence is of one's own making. Depicted on the screen, it is the director's violence we must accept, often-times more graphic than our own imaginations.

I consider *Pulp Fiction* one of the best films of the year. *Forrest Gump* is the best film of the year. It is loaded with special effects, less dazzling than those of the space epics, and filled with wonderful performances.

David Sandler
San Francisco



Pulp Fiction

Nineteen-ninety four was a fabulous year for movies. Consider my top six choices:

Pulp Fiction had captivating performances by the whole cast, even Bruce Willis. But the top star was the screenplay with surprise twists (including Travolta and Thurman's unforgettable twisting) and a fresh nonlinear format.

The Last Seduction has to be seen for Linda Fiorentino's performance as a sharp conniver not hampered by love or legality. John Dahl, the director, directed two other brilliant noirish successes: *Red Rock West* and *Kill Me Again*.

Hoop Dreams and *Speed* were deservedly included in your critic's list, but why not *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, one of 1994's most popular films?

Ed Wood deserves more than passing mention. Tim Burton's biopic on the cross-dressing director captures Wood's peculiar energy. The cinematography

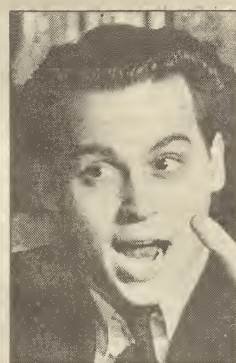
was top-notch, and Martin Landau as Bela Lugosi gave one of the best performances of the year.

minded filmgoer. I pity the state of cinema today.

Kelly Mayes
San Francisco

Bradley Rose
San Francisco

One of the most overlooked films of 1994 was the superb Canadian film *Thirty-two Short Films About Glenn Gould*. This was one of the best biographical films I've ever seen as it captured the meaning of the legendary pianist's life as only it could be, through his uniquely idiosyncratic musical evocations. I suspect the film was overlooked because not only was its subject completely unglamorous (read: unsexy), but the film's unusual manipulation of narrative time was too complex for the average literal-



Ed Wood

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Priscilla, Queen of the Desert

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Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage
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\$45/in \$60/Out 75 mins.
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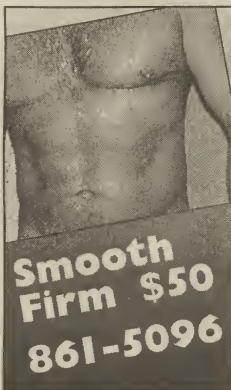
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\$40/IN \$50/OUT



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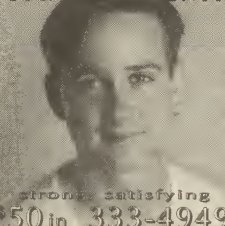
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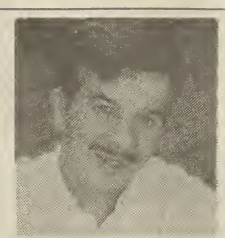
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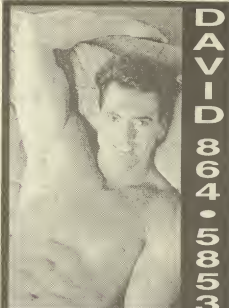
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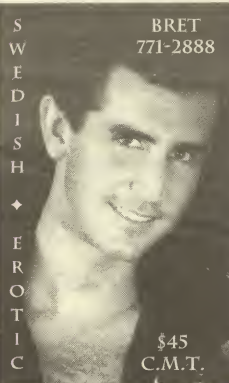
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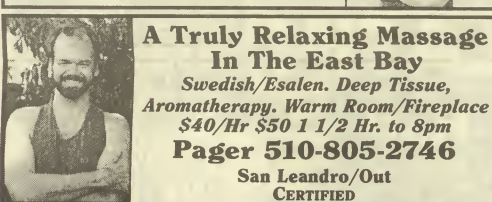
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muscular body,
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Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage
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MY HOME IS MY TEMPLE; YOUR TABLE, A SHRINE.

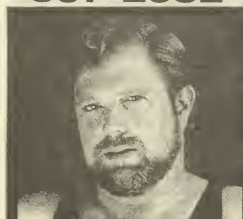
PEOPLE & PERSONALS

MASSAGE



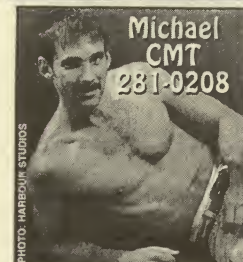
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20yo. Asian Student
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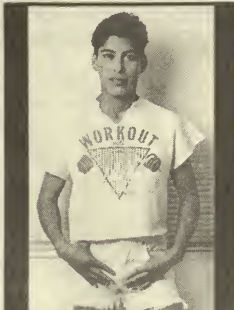
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Get It Build (5'10", 160#)!!

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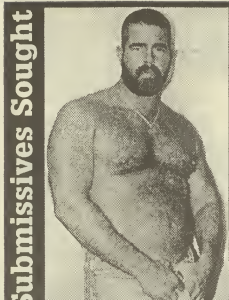
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ITALIAN
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Now!

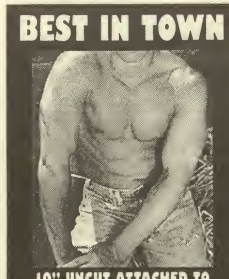


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6'7", 240#, Blue-eyed, extra
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with 9" x 7" cut
quarter pounder
and low hangers
David 24 Hrs.
863-1344

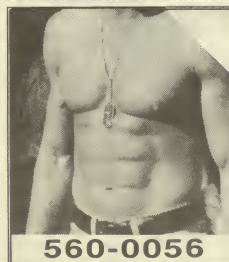
21 y/o Blond Long Hair 6'
Cute Face Hung 8 522-1736

9X6 24 HOURS
Call: 775-4771 24 Hrs



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10" UNCUT ATTACHED TO
PERFECT BODY
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ITALIAN BODY
B/Builder, 230 Lbs.,
6'1", 50" Ch, 20"A,
25 Years Old
From Italy
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Hot Ass! Will Travel
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Ruggedly Handsome, Mus-
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U/C, and Gorgeous, Sexy
Young Female; together for
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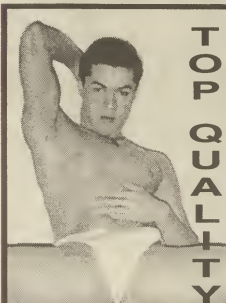
SEXY GUY
Hung 9" and the Hottest
775-4771 24 Hours

**BIG MAN ON CAMPUS
BRENT**
Classic good looks. The
quiet capable type.
Well-versed, energetic,
and dedicated to your
fantasy; this 6'8" tall,
37 y.o. kid sports size
15 sneakers and a
bountiful basket of
goods. Brown hair, big
biceps, green eyes & a
sensual moustache
belies the little boy
inside. Wanna play?
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\$150/hr call back required.

PEOPLE & PERSONALS

MODELS

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6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
Lord 431-0959

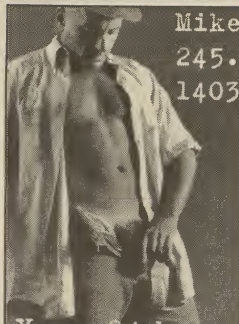


LATINO, 23 Y.O., VERSATILE
9X7 In/Out \$100
648-0240/245-2876 PGR.



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Friendly, affectionate
Never in a hurry \$75



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• MUSCLEMAN •
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NAKED
DOLPH
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Snuggle, 4-Play, Oral Expert!
From \$60 "Jack" 708 3325 E00

6', 168#, 8", GdLkg, Muscle top
Indulges you. REX 928-3199 E04

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& very handsome. \$80in/\$100out
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21 y/o, 6'2", 175 lbs.
Good-looking, Friendly,
Vers. Top, 7" Cut, Playful. SEAN
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I'm great w/ beginners. 885-1471 E00

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Scott 441-4672 \$80/Out, \$70 In E00

GdLkg, 6'1", 165 Lbs.
ASIAN TOP
\$60/\$80 JIM 267-1817 E07



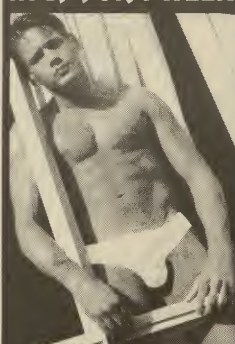
**TALL
HAIRY
HUNG**

863-0847

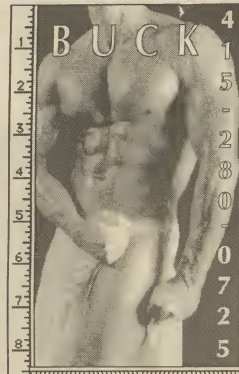
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THEN I'M THE ONE!**
Hot guy next door treats you right!
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Buddy \$85 (415) 292-6425

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TONY 809-0000

LONGHAIR
LEAN SEXY BOY
739-9652

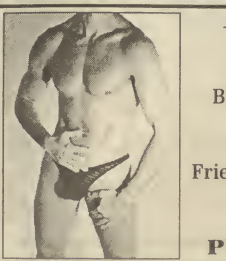
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SEXY ATHLETIC STUD
29YR, 6'1", 190LB, HUNG
CALL MIKE 284-6268 E00

Handsome & Exotic Jewish
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5'11", 165#, 29yo, Well-Equipped
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Irresistibly Goodlooking
19 Y/O ASIAN
Smooth, Sexy & Nice Body
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**THE BEST LOOKING
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YOU'LL EVER
COME ACROSS**

6'2", 190lbs. of Solid,
Well-defined Muscle,
43"Ch, 31w, six-pac abs,
Truly Handsome, 28 Yrs.
**NO KIDDING,
CHECK IT OUT!!!
TREAT YOURSELF TO
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Body Builder**
240 Pounds, 25 years old
6'1", 52" ch., 20" a.
New In Town
From Paris
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Anthony,
27, 6'2", 180, Tan,
Trim and Muscular.
Black Hair & Brown Eyes.
Hung 8 1/2" & Thick,
Low Hangers.
Friendly and Willing to Please.
Serving All Bay Ares.
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"Finally an
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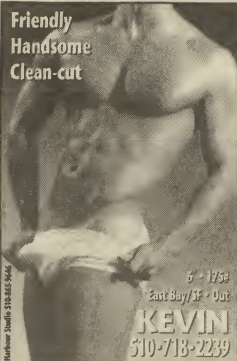
"A service that matches me
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PEOPLE & PERSONALS

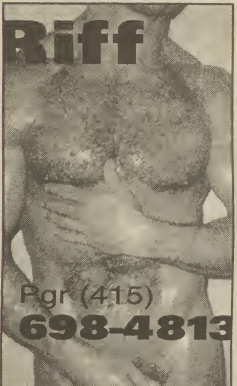
MODELS

Friendly
Handsome
Clean-cut



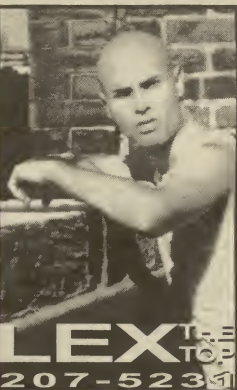
5' - 175#
East Bay/SF - Unc
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Extra Handsome, Clean-Cut
Dark Blond, Bi, 5'10", 170#
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Built, Friendly, Dominant!
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Affectionate, Sexy, Hungry
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10", UNCUT E03

Quality Erotic Massage
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Gorgeous Jewish/Italian 33,
6'2", 170, Shldr length
brn hair, hairy chest,
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Smooth Blonde Top
Hot, Hung & Hard
23yo, 5'8", 145#, 8x6
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931-SEXY
6' 175# 42c 29w Brn/Blu
Massage Included
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**Chance
Southern
Boy**



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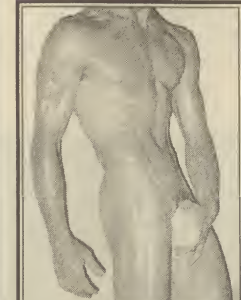
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GUY W/ VERY HOT BODY
BUTCH BOTTOM
Very Handsome, 26 Y/O
Flannel & Jeans Kind'a Guy
N/S, N/D, Safe
For Men Over 30
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Hot, Sexy Handsm Stud. Exper-
ience the Total Package. Nice
body & great personality.
Dominant Top. Available 24 Hrs.
Tony (415) 292-6425 \$85 E04

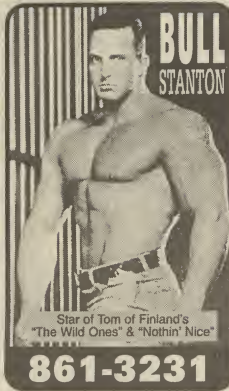
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Student. Slim, Hung
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WARM, FRIENDLY, BUTCH
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For Men Over 30
Mitch 561-9722
HOT BODY - NICE GUY E04
X-Army Sgt. 6'4", 195 lbs. hairy.
Chuck 431-1579 E05

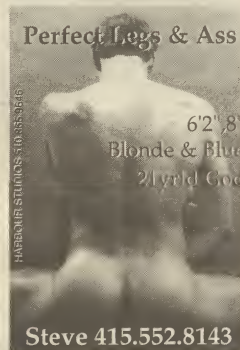
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Handsome, Hung, Age 38
No S&M. Dave 922-3924 E03

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